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CHAPTER 01
Physical Features of India

1. Which of the following physical divisions of India occupies the largest total geographical area?
(A) The Northern Plains
(B) The Peninsular Plateau
(C) The Himalayan Mountains
(D) The Coastal Plains

2. Consider the following statements regarding the geological structure of India:
I. The Peninsular Plateau is considered one of the most stable land blocks on Earth.
II. The Himalayas are geologically old, stable mountains.
III. The Northern Plains are primarily composed of alluvial deposits.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

3. Read Statement I and Statement II and select the correct option.
Statement I: The Himalayas were formed as a result of the collision between the Indo-Australian Plate and the Eurasian Plate.
Statement II: The uplift of the Himalayas out of the Tethys Sea led to the formation of a large depression, which later filled to become the Northern Plains.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

4. Given below are an Assertion (A) and a Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Himadri or Great Himalayas contain the majority of the world's highest peaks, including Mount Everest and Kangchenjunga.
Reason (R): The Himadri is the southernmost and geologically youngest range of the Himalayan mountain system.
Select the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

5. Which of the following statements about the Trans-Himalayas is incorrect?
(A) It receives the highest rainfall in India from the southwest monsoon.
(B) It is situated to the north of the Great Himalayas as an elevated cold region.
(C) The Zaskar, Ladakh, and Karakoram constitute the primary mountain ranges within it.
(D) A large part of the Trans-Himalayan region lies in Tibet, earning it the name Tibetan Himalaya.

6. The K2 peak (Godwin Austen), the highest peak in India, is located in which of the following mountain ranges?
(A) Zaskar Range
(B) Pir Panjal Range
(C) Ladakh Range
(D) Karakoram Range

7. Consider the following Himalayan ranges and their key geographical features or locations, and match List I with List II.
List I: (Himalayan Ranges)
P. Great Himalayas
Q. Middle Himalayas
R. Shiwaliks
S. Trans-Himalayas
List II: (Geographical Features)
1. Composed largely of unconsolidated sediments
2. Contains famous hill stations like Shimla and Darjeeling
3. Contains the Siachen Glacier
4. Composed centrally of granite with asymmetrical folds

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Select the correct code:
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

8. The Middle Himalayas (Himachal) are well known for their scenic valleys. Which of the following valleys is NOT located in the Middle Himalayas?
(A) Kashmir Valley
(B) Kullu Valley
(C) Silent Valley
(D) Kangra Valley

9. In the context of the Himalayan mountain system, the term "Duns" refers to:
(A) V-shaped valleys carved out over time by fast-flowing glacial rivers and streams.
(B) High-altitude mountain passes forming trade routes connecting India and Tibet.
(C) Extensive elevated flatlands and cold plains located beyond the Karakoram range.
(D) Longitudinal valleys situated between the Lesser Himalayas and the Shiwaliks.

10. Arrange the following mountain ranges of the Himalayan and Trans-Himalayan system in the correct sequence from North to South:
1. Zaskar Range
2. Karakoram Range
3. Shiwalik Range
4. Ladakh Range

Which of the following is the correct sequence?
(A) 2, 4, 1, 3
(B) 2, 1, 4, 3
(C) 4, 2, 1, 3
(D) 1, 2, 4, 3

11. Which of the following defines the "Bhabar" sub-region of the Northern Plains?
(A) A narrow, wet, swampy, and marshy belt covered with dense forests and rich wildlife.
(B) A porous belt parallel to the Shiwalik foothills where streams disappear underground.
(C) The largest part of the northern plains formed of older alluvium containing calcareous deposits.
(D) The newer, fertile deposits of river flood plains that are renewed almost every year.

12. Immediately south of the Bhabar belt lies the Tarai region. What is the primary hydrological characteristic of the Tarai region?
(A) It is a dry, arid, and semi-arid zone characterized by deep groundwater aquifers.
(B) A region where underground streams re-emerge to create a marshy landscape.
(C) It is dominated by highly porous rocks that prevent any surface water accumulation.
(D) It consists primarily of coastal backwaters, tidal creeks, and estuarine networks.

13. Consider the following statements regarding the Bhangar and Khadar sub-regions of the Northern Plains:
I. Bhangar is composed of older alluvium and lies above the flood levels of the rivers.
II. Khadar consists of newer alluvium that is deposited annually by floods.
III. The soil in the Bhangar region contains calcareous deposits locally known as 'Kankar'.
IV. Khadar soils are generally less fertile than Bhangar soils and are unsuitable for intensive agriculture.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, III, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

14. Given below are an Assertion (A) and a Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The north-western part of the Deccan Plateau is known as the Deccan Trap and features black soil.
Reason (R): This region was formed by intense glacial erosion during the Pleistocene epoch.
Select the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

15. The Malwa Plateau, extending into the south-eastern parts of Rajasthan, is primarily drained by which of the following river systems?
(A) Luni and Sukri
(B) Godavari and Krishna
(C) Mahanadi and Subarnarekha
(D) Chambal and Betwa

16. The Central Highlands lie to the north of the Narmada river. Which mountain range bounds the Central Highlands on the northwest?

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(A) Vindhya Range
(B) Satpura Range
(C) Aravalli Range
(D) Mahadeo Hills

17. Consider the following physiographic features and their geographical associations, and match List I with List II.
List I: (Physiographic Features)
P. Chotanagpur Plateau
Q. Meghalaya Plateau
R. Deccan Plateau
S. Bundelkhand
List II: (Geographical Associations)
1. North-eastern extension of the Peninsular Plateau
2. Storehouse of minerals drained by the Damodar river
3. Transitional zone between the Gangetic plain and the Vindhyas
4. Triangular landmass south of the Narmada river
Select the correct code:
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

18. Which of the following pairs of peaks and their corresponding mountain ranges in the Western Ghats is incorrectly matched?
(A) Anamudi Peak — Anaimalai Hills
(B) Doda Betta Peak — Nilgiri Hills
(C) Kalsubai Peak — Sahyadri Range
(D) Mahendragiri — Cardamom Hills

19. Identify the odd one out among the following hills, based on their association with the Eastern Ghats.
(A) Anaimalai Hills
(B) Javadi Hills
(C) Shevroy Hills
(D) Nallamala Hills

20. Consider the following statements regarding the Thar Desert in Rajasthan:
I. The region receives very low rainfall, generally below 150 mm per year.
II. Barchans (crescent-shaped dunes) are a prominent topographical feature of this region.
III. Luni is the only large river in this geographical division.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

21. The central part of the Western Coastal Plain, lying primarily between Goa and Mangalore, is known as the:
(A) Kannad Coast
(B) Konkan Coast
(C) Malabar Coast
(D) Coromandel Coast

22. Read Statement I and Statement II and select the correct option.
Statement I: The Eastern Coastal Plains are much broader and more level compared to the Western Coastal Plains.
Statement II: Major rivers like the Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, and Kaveri have formed extensive deltas on the Eastern Coast.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

23. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands are considered geologically unique. They are primarily believed to be:
(A) Low-lying coral islands formed entirely by the skeletal deposits of marine polyps.
(B) Elevated portions of submarine mountains extending from the Arakan Yoma range.
(C) Remnants of an ancient continental shelf isolated over time by a rise in global sea levels.
(D) Glacial moraines and fluvioglacial deposits formed during the last Ice Age.

24. Given below are an Assertion (A) and a Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Lakshadweep Islands are generally flat and have a very low elevation above sea level.
Reason (R): The Lakshadweep Islands are predominantly formed by coral deposits (atolls).
Select the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true

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but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

25. Arrange the following mountain ranges of the Peninsular Plateau from North to South, which also act as significant drainage divides:
(A) Vindhya Range, Satpura Range, Ajanta Range, Nilgiri Hills
(B) Satpura Range, Vindhya Range, Nilgiri Hills, Ajanta Range
(C) Vindhya Range, Ajanta Range, Satpura Range, Nilgiri Hills
(D) Ajanta Range, Vindhya Range, Satpura Range, Nilgiri Hills

26. Consider the following geological rock systems and their characteristic economic minerals, and match List I with List II.
List I: (Geological Rock Systems)
P. Dharwar System
Q. Gondwana System
R. Vindhyan System
S. Tertiary System
List II: (Economic Minerals)
1. Major reserves of coal
2. Building stones, limestone, and sandstone
3. Petroleum and natural gas
4. Highly metalliferous (iron ore, gold, manganese)
Select the correct code:
(A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

27. Which of the following physiographic regions of India is considered the most critical for ensuring the nation's food security due to its high agricultural productivity?
(A) The Peninsular Plateau
(B) The Northern Plains
(C) The Eastern Coastal Plains
(D) The Central Highlands

28. Physical features heavily dictate settlement patterns in India. Which of the following geographical conditions is generally NOT conducive to high population density and dense settlements?
(A) Extensive availability of flat terrain
(B) Rugged topography with steep gradients
(C) Deep, fertile alluvial soils
(D) Reliable accessibility to freshwater sources

29. Consider the following comparative statements about the Himalayan region and the Peninsular Plateau:
I. The Himalayas have youthful topography with high peaks, deep valleys, and fast-flowing rivers.
II. The Peninsular Plateau consists of broad and shallow valleys and rounded hills.
III. The Himalayas are geologically older than the Peninsular Plateau.
IV. The Peninsular Plateau is primarily composed of igneous and metamorphic rocks.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

30. India shares its longest international land border with which of the following countries, significantly shaping the geographical span of its eastern physical features?
(A) China
(B) Pakistan
(C) Bangladesh
(D) Nepal

31. According to the theory of Plate Tectonics, the Himalayas were formed by the folding of sedimentary rocks accumulated in a geosyncline known as:
(A) Panthalassa
(B) Angaraland
(C) Gondwana
(D) Tethys

32. Which of the following statements correctly describes a feature of the Himalayan mountain system?
(A) The Himalayan mountains form a continuous, unbroken straight line from Kashmir to Arunachal Pradesh.
(B) The Himalayas are classified as block mountains formed by faulting.
(C) The altitudinal variations are greater in the eastern half of the Himalayas than in the western half.
(D) The width of the Himalayas increases progressively as one moves from Kashmir to Arunachal Pradesh.

33. The Karakoram range holds immense strategic and geographic importance. Which of the

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following prominent glaciers is located in the Karakoram range?
(A) Gangotri Glacier
(B) Siachen Glacier
(C) Zemu Glacier
(D) Milam Glacier

34. Consider the following statements regarding the Ladakh and Zaskar ranges:
I. The Ladakh range lies to the north of the Zaskar range.
II. The Indus river flows through a deep gorge between the Ladakh and Zaskar ranges.
III. Both ranges are part of the Great Himalayan (Himadri) system.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

35. Which of the following statements about the Great Himalayas (Himadri) is incorrect?
(A) It is completely devoid of snow during the summer months.
(B) It is the most continuous range, with an average elevation of 6,000 meters.
(C) The core of this part of the Himalayas is composed of granite.
(D) Prominent peaks like Nanda Devi and Kamet belong to this range.

36. Given below are an Assertion (A) and a Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Middle Himalayas (Himachal) range is the most rugged mountain system and consists predominantly of highly compressed and altered rocks.
Reason (R): The Pir Panjal range forms the longest and most important range within the Middle Himalayas.
Select the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

37. The average width of the Shiwalik range varies between:
(A) 10 to 50 km
(B) 100 to 150 km
(C) 200 to 250 km
(D) 400 to 500 km

38. Consider the local names of the Northern Plains divisions and their geographical regions, and match List I with List II.
List I: (Northern Plains Divisions)
P. Punjab Plains
Q. Ganga Plains
R. Brahmaputra Plains
S. Doab
List II: (Geographical Regions)
1. Between the Teesta and Dihang rivers
2. Formed by the Indus and its tributaries
3. Land mass situated between two combining rivers
4. Between the Ghaggar and Teesta rivers
Select the correct code:
(A) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

39. Identify the correctly matched pair regarding the longitudinal divisions of the Northern Plains.
(A) Bhabar — Swampy and marshy region with dense forests
(B) Khadar — Younger alluvium deposited on the flood plains
(C) Tarai — Porous belt of pebbles where streams disappear
(D) Bhangar — Coastal estuarine deposits highly prone to tidal floods

40. Arrange the following geomorphological features of the Northern Plains in the correct sequence from North (foothills) to South:
1. Tarai
2. Bhabar
3. Khadar (River Floodplain)
4. Bhangar
Which of the following is the correct sequence?
(A) 2, 1, 4, 3
(B) 1, 2, 3, 4
(C) 2, 4, 1, 3
(D) 4, 3, 1, 2

41. Consider the following statements regarding the Deccan Plateau:
I. It is a triangular landmass that lies to the south of the river Narmada.
II. The Satpura range flanks its broad base in the north.
III. The plateau is higher in the east and slopes gently westwards.

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IV. An extension of the plateau is also visible in the northeast, locally known as the Meghalaya and Karbi-Anglong Plateau.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

42. In the context of Rajasthan's geography, the south-eastern plateau region known as the Hadoti Plateau is essentially an extension of which major physiographic division of India?
(A) The Malwa Plateau
(B) The Chotanagpur Plateau
(C) The Deccan Trap
(D) The Meghalaya Plateau

43. The Central Highlands consist of several eastward extensions. Which of the following is NOT an eastward extension of the Central Highlands?
(A) Bundelkhand
(B) Kathiawar
(C) Baghelkhand
(D) Chotanagpur

44. The Chotanagpur Plateau is drained primarily by which river, making a significant valley famous for coal deposits?
(A) Godavari
(B) Damodar
(C) Son
(D) Narmada

45. The Western Ghats cause orographic rain by forcing the rain-bearing moist winds to rise along the western slopes. During the southwest monsoon, which side of the Western Ghats lies in the rain shadow area?
(A) The leeward side of the Ghats
(B) The narrow western coastal plain adjacent to the Arabian Sea
(C) The windward Malabar coastal strip of Kerala
(D) The northern Konkan coastal strip of Maharashtra

46. Which of the following is the most accurate description of the Eastern Ghats?
(A) They form a continuous, unbroken mountain range running parallel to the entire Bay of Bengal coast.
(B) They are significantly higher in elevation than the Western Ghats and covered with dense equatorial forests.
(C) They are discontinuous and irregular, dissected by major rivers draining into the Bay of Bengal.
(D) They consist purely of recent volcanic rock formations, flood basalts, and active shield volcanoes.

47. Read Statement I and Statement II and select the correct option.
Statement I: The Thar Desert in Rajasthan is bordered by the Aravalli Hills on its south-eastern edge.
Statement II: The presence of the Aravalli Hills parallel to the direction of the Arabian Sea branch of the southwest monsoon is a primary reason for the aridity of the Thar Desert.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

48. The Western Coastal Plains are divided into different sections. Which of the following is NOT a section of the Western Coastal Plains?
(A) Konkan Coastal Plain
(B) Kannad Coastal Plain
(C) Northern Circars
(D) Malabar Coastal Plain

49. Choose the correct sequence of the geographical divisions of the Eastern Coastal Plains from North to South:
(A) Utkal Coast, Coromandel Coast, Northern Circars
(B) Northern Circars, Utkal Coast, Coromandel Coast
(C) Utkal Coast, Northern Circars, Coromandel Coast
(D) Coromandel Coast, Northern Circars, Utkal Coast

50. Which of the following statements about the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is correct?
(A) The Andaman Islands are located to the south of the Nicobar Islands.
(B) The islands belong to a massive atoll system formed exclusively by coral polyps.
(C) The capital city, Kavaratti, is located in the Great Andaman group.

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(D) They are separated by a deep water body known as the Ten Degree Channel.

51. The Lakshadweep Islands cover a relatively small geographical area. What is the approximate total area of the Lakshadweep island group?
(A) 32 sq km
(B) 102 sq km
(C) 250 sq km
(D) 500 sq km

52. Consider the following statements regarding the major drainage divides of India:
I. The Aravalli range acts as a water divide between the Indus and the Ganga drainage systems.
II. The Western Ghats form the major water divide between the west-flowing Arabian Sea rivers and east-flowing Bay of Bengal rivers.
III. The Vindhya range acts as a primary divide between the Himalayan river systems and the Peninsular river systems.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

53. The Peninsular Plateau of India is characterized by the widespread occurrence of black soil in its north-western part. Geologically, this soil was formed due to the weathering of:
(A) Basaltic lava rocks erupted during the Cretaceous period.
(B) Sedimentary rock formations deposited over time by riverine transport.
(C) Metamorphic rock systems like gneiss and schist from the Archaean era.
(D) Calcareous marine deposits and sediments found in coastal backwaters.

54. Identify the incorrectly matched pair regarding Indian physiographic features and their dominant agricultural significance.
(A) Northern Plains — Intensive Wheat and Rice cultivation
(B) Deccan Trap — Black soil Cotton cultivation
(C) Malabar Coast — Spices and Plantation crops
(D) Thar Desert — Jute and Sugarcane cultivation

55. Historically, the Northern Plains have supported very high population densities primarily due to:
(A) Immense deposits of metallic mineral resources that fueled rapid industrialization.
(B) Rich alluvial soil, favorable climate, and abundant water supply for agriculture.
(C) The widespread presence of natural deep-sea ports facilitating international trade.
(D) Strategic natural isolation provided on all sides by surrounding rugged terrain.

56. Consider the following comparative statements about the physical features of India:
I. The mountains provide the major source of water and forest wealth.
II. The northern plains are considered the granaries of the country.
III. The plateau is a storehouse of minerals, supporting industrialization.
IV. The coastal regions and island groups provide sites for fishing and port activities.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, III, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

57. Which of the following longitudes is selected as the Standard Meridian of India, passing through Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh?
(A) 80°30' E
(B) 85°30' E
(C) 88°30' E
(D) 82°30' E

58. The tectonic movement that caused the separation of the Indian plate from Gondwanaland primarily involved its drift towards which direction?
(A) South
(B) North
(C) East
(D) West

59. The prominent syntaxial bends in the Himalayan mountain range occur at its western and eastern extremities. These bends are marked by which two significant geographical anchors respectively?
(A) Mount Everest and Kangchenjunga
(B) Nanga Parbat and Namcha Barwa
(C) K2 and Kamet
(D) Nanda Devi and Dhaulagiri

60. The cold desert region of India lies in the Trans-Himalayan zone. Which of the following ranges acts as a barrier preventing the monsoon winds from reaching this cold desert?

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(A) The Shiwalik Range
(B) Great Himalayas
(C) The Aravalli Range
(D) The Vindhya Range

61. The Great Himalayas are asymmetrical in nature. The folds of this range predominantly face towards the south, making the southern slopes steeper. Which country shares the gentler northern slopes of the Great Himalayas?
(A) China (Tibet)
(B) Pakistan
(C) Nepal
(D) Bhutan

62. The Mahabharat range is a prominent longitudinal mountain chain. In which country is the Mahabharat range, a part of the Lesser (Middle) Himalayas, primarily located?
(A) India
(B) Bhutan
(C) Nepal
(D) Myanmar

63. The Shiwaliks are composed of unconsolidated sediments. What is the primary source of these sediments?
(A) Thick layers of volcanic ash and basaltic debris ejected from the Deccan trap.
(B) Shallow marine sediments deposited during the retreat of the ancient Tethys Sea.
(C) Fine, wind-blown arid sand transported continuously from the Thar Desert.
(D) Sediments brought down by rivers from the northern Himalayan ranges.

64. The depositional work of the Himalayan rivers forms riverine islands in their lower courses due to a decrease in river velocity. Which is the largest inhabited riverine island in the world, located in the Brahmaputra river?
(A) Umananda
(B) Srirangam
(C) Majuli
(D) Bhavani Island

65. In the context of the physical divisions of the Northern Plains, what happens to the numerous streams that descend from the Himalayas upon reaching the Bhabar belt?
(A) They split into multiple massive distributary channels to form extensive deltas.
(B) They disappear underground due to the high porosity of pebble deposits.
(C) They pool together in shallow land depressions to form large inland freshwater lakes.
(D) They carve out exceptionally deep, V-shaped river gorges through the sediment layer.

66. The distinct terrace-like feature found in the Northern Plains, which lies above the flood plains of the rivers, is characteristic of which region?
(A) Tarai
(B) Khadar
(C) Bhabar
(D) Bhangar

67. The Peninsular Plateau of India is an aggregation of several smaller plateaus. Which of the following forms the southernmost tip of the Indian peninsular mainland?
(A) Kanyakumari
(B) Indira Point
(C) Rameshwaram
(D) Point Calimere

68. The Deccan Plateau is separated from the Chotanagpur Plateau by a prominent geological fault. What is the name of this fault?
(A) Main Boundary Fault
(B) Great Boundary Fault
(C) Malda Fault
(D) Himalayan Frontal Fault

69. The Chambal river flows through the Malwa plateau and the adjoining areas of eastern Rajasthan, creating a heavily eroded landscape characterized by deep ravines. What is this type of topography known as?
(A) Badland topography
(B) Karst topography
(C) Glacial topography
(D) Aeolian topography

70. The Vindhya range forms the southern boundary of the Central Highlands. Which of the following rivers originates near the Amarkantak plateau in this region and flows westwards through a rift valley?
(A) Mahanadi
(B) Godavari
(C) Tapi
(D) Narmada

71. The Chotanagpur plateau encompasses parts of several Indian states. Which of the following states is NOT a significant part of the Chotanagpur plateau region?

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(A) Jharkhand
(B) Punjab
(C) West Bengal
(D) Chhattisgarh

72. The Western Ghats act as a significant barrier for communication and transport between the western coast and the Deccan plateau. Which of the following is a major pass located in the Western Ghats connecting Mumbai to Pune?
(A) Palghat
(B) Thal Ghat
(C) Bhor Ghat
(D) Shenkottai Gap

73. The highest peak of the Eastern Ghats, renowned for its prominence in the discontinuous range, is:
(A) Anamudi
(B) Doda Betta
(C) Guru Shikhar
(D) Arma Konda

74. The Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats meet at a specific mountainous junction in southern India. What is the name of this junction?
(A) Nilgiri Hills
(B) Cardamom Hills
(C) Palani Hills
(D) Nallamala Hills

75. In the Thar Desert region of Rajasthan, salt-water lakes are common in the depressions between sand dunes. What is the local term used to describe these shallow, intermittent salt lakes?
(A) Duns
(B) Playas
(C) Khadins
(D) Bhabars

76. During the summer months, the Thar Desert experiences strong, hot, and dry westerly winds that blow over Rajasthan and parts of the northern plains. What are these winds locally known as?
(A) Mango showers
(B) Loo
(C) Kal Baisakhi
(D) Cherry Blossom

77. The Malabar coast in Kerala is famous for its unique geographical feature consisting of interconnected brackish lagoons and lakes parallel to the coast. What is the local name for these backwaters?
(A) Kayals
(B) Khadars
(C) Chos
(D) Dhrians

78. Lake Chilika, the largest saltwater lake in India, is a prominent feature of the Eastern Coastal Plains. In which state is it located?
(A) Andhra Pradesh
(B) Tamil Nadu
(C) Odisha
(D) West Bengal

79. Barren Island, the only active volcano in India, is located in which of the following regions?
(A) Lakshadweep Sea
(B) Gulf of Mannar
(C) Palk Strait
(D) Andaman Sea

80. The administrative headquarters and capital of the Union Territory of Lakshadweep is situated on which of the following islands?
(A) Minicoy Island
(B) Agatti Island
(C) Kavaratti
(D) Andrott Island

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81. The Aravalli Range is one of the oldest fold mountain systems in the world. Besides acting as a major drainage divide, what is the highest peak of the Aravalli range located in Rajasthan?
(A) Ser Peak
(B) Guru Shikhar
(C) Achalgarh Peak
(D) Dilwara Peak

82. Which of the following statements best defines a "watershed" or "drainage divide"?
(A) A deep gorge carved by an antecedent river flowing through a mountain range.
(B) A large depression on the earth's surface where multiple rivers converge to form a lake.
(C) A coastal estuary where freshwater from a river meets the saltwater of the ocean.
(D) An elevated area, such as a mountain or an upland, that separates two drainage basins.

83. The Himalayas are geologically classified as young fold mountains. Which of the following geological eras is associated with the major phases of the Himalayan uplift?
(A) Cenozoic Era
(B) Precambrian Era
(C) Paleozoic Era

(D) Mesozoic Era

84. The Gondwana rock system in India is economically crucial. Approximately what percentage of India's coal reserves are found in the Gondwana rock formations?
(A) Approximately 20%
(B) Approximately 40%
(C) Approximately 60%
(D) Over 95%

85. The topography of the Peninsular Plateau, with its hard rock surface and undulating terrain, is highly suitable for which of the following agricultural irrigation methods historically used in southern India?
(A) Tank irrigation
(B) Extensive canal networks
(C) Tube wells tapping deep aquifers
(D) Inundation canals

86. In western Rajasthan, scattered and dispersed settlement patterns are most commonly observed. Which physiographic constraint is the primary reason for this?
(A) Frequent seismic activity and active tectonic instability in the region
(B) High risk of seasonal river flooding and widespread coastal erosion
(C) Dense, impenetrable tropical forest cover and steep hilly terrain
(D) Scarcity of water resources and low agricultural carrying capacity

87. The distinct physical features of India influence transportation networks, which in turn dictate settlement growth. Which region of India has the densest network of railways primarily due to its flat terrain and high population density?
(A) The Himalayan Region
(B) The Northern Plains
(C) The Peninsular Plateau
(D) The Western Ghats

88. When comparing the rivers of the Himalayas with those of the Peninsular Plateau, which of the following is a characteristic feature of most Peninsular rivers?
(A) They are perennial, receiving continuous water from both rainfall and melting glaciers.
(B) They form exceptionally deep V-shaped valleys and perform intense erosional activity.
(C) They are seasonal, dependent largely on rainfall, and flow through broad, shallow valleys.
(D) They exhibit a very strong meandering tendency and shift their courses quite frequently.

89. Which of the following regions acts as an expansive zone of transition between the geologically older, stable Peninsular Plateau and the younger, highly unstable Himalayan mountain system?
(A) The Eastern Ghats mountain range
(B) The Thar Desert region
(C) The Andaman Sea basin
(D) The Northern Plains

90. India's vast physical diversity is structurally divided into major physiographic divisions. According to standard geographical classification, how many broad physiographic divisions is India generally categorized into?
(A) Four
(B) Six
(C) Eight
(D) Ten

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ANSWERS

1. (B) The Peninsular Plateau
The Peninsular Plateau is the oldest and largest physical division of India, covering an area of approximately 16 lakh square kilometers. This extensive landmass accounts for nearly half of the country's total geographical area. It is composed mainly of ancient crystalline, igneous, and metamorphic rocks, forming an elevated triangular tableland across central and southern India.

2. (C) I and III only
The Peninsular Plateau constitutes one of the most stable and ancient land blocks on Earth, formed during Precambrian times. In contrast, the Himalayas represent geologically young, flexible, and unstable fold mountains currently undergoing tectonic uplift. The vast Northern Plains were created through continuous deposition of rich alluvial sediments brought down by major Himalayan and Peninsular river systems over time.

3. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The Himalayas arose due to the collision between the Indo-Australian Plate and the Eurasian Plate, which folded the sediments accumulated within the Tethys geosyncline. The massive uplift of these mountains simultaneously created a huge foredeep depression to their south. Continuous riverine deposition of fertile alluvium filled this immense basin, ultimately giving rise to the broad Northern Plains.

4. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
The Himadri, or Great Himalayas, is the northernmost and highest range of the Himalayan mountain system, housing world-famous peaks like Mount Everest and Kangchenjunga. It features an average elevation exceeding 6,000 meters. However, the southernmost, geologically youngest, and lowest range of the Himalayas is the Shiwalik range, rather than the core inner range of the Himadri.

5. (A) It receives the highest rainfall in India from the southwest monsoon.
The Trans-Himalayan region lies north of the Great Himalayas and includes ranges like the Karakoram, Ladakh, and Zaskar. Positioned in the rain-shadow zone of the High Himalayas, it receives extremely scanty rainfall, rendering it a high-altitude cold desert. The highest monsoon rainfall in India actually occurs on the southern slopes of the Khasi Hills in the northeastern state of Meghalaya.

6. (D) Karakoram Range
Mount K2, also known as Godwin Austen, stands at an elevation of 8,611 meters and is the highest peak located in India. It forms part of the formidable Karakoram Range in the northernmost Trans-Himalayan belt. This rugged range houses some of the world's largest non-polar glaciers, including Siachen and Baltoro, spanning across high mountain terrains.

7. (B) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
The Great Himalayas feature a core of granite framed by asymmetrical folds. The Middle Himalayas are renowned for popular hill stations like Shimla, Mussoorie, and Darjeeling. The Shiwaliks consist mainly of unconsolidated coarse sediments carried down by mountain streams. The Trans-Himalayan belt hosts major glacier systems, notably the Siachen Glacier, within the Karakoram mountain range.

8. (C) Silent Valley
The Middle Himalayas contain prominent scenic valleys such as the Kashmir Valley, Kullu Valley, and Kangra Valley, formed by glacial and riverine processes between mountain ranges. In contrast, Silent Valley is an evergreen tropical rainforest sanctuary situated in the Nilgiri Hills of the Western Ghats in Kerala, completely separate from the northern Himalayan mountain chain.

9. (D) Longitudinal valleys situated between the Lesser Himalayas and the Shiwaliks.
Duns are structural, longitudinal valleys formed between the Lesser Himalayas and the outer Shiwalik range. These valleys are filled with heavy deposits of coarse alluvium, gravel, and

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boulders transported by torrential mountain streams. Famous examples of these flat-bottomed longitudinal formations include Dehradun, Kotli Dun, and Patli Dun, which support urban settlements and agriculture.

10. (A) 2, 4, 1, 3
Arranging the northern mountain ranges from North to South begins with the Karakoram Range at the northern boundary. Directly south of Karakoram lies the Ladakh Range, followed by the Zaskar Range. Further south, past the Great and Middle Himalayas, is the Shiwalik Range, which represents the outermost and southernmost foothills of the entire Himalayan belt.

11. (B) A porous belt parallel to the Shiwalik foothills where streams disappear underground.
The Bhabar is a narrow belt ranging from 8 to 16 kilometers in width, lying parallel to the Shiwalik foothills. It is composed of unassorted, highly porous pebble beds deposited by mountain streams descending from the Himalayas. Due to high porosity, surface streams sink beneath these gravelly layers, disappearing underground before reappearing further south.

12. (B) A region where underground streams re-emerge to create a marshy landscape.
The Tarai region lies immediately south of the Bhabar belt and is characterized by the re-emergence of underground streams that disappeared into the pebble beds. This continuous surface outflow creates a wet, swampy, and marshy terrain with rich biodiversity. Historically covered in thick forests, large portions have been cleared for productive agriculture and human settlements.

13. (A) I, II, and III only
Bhangar comprises older alluvial deposits located above current river flood levels, characterized by terraced structures containing calcareous nodules known as Kankar. Khadar consists of younger alluvial deposits situated in active floodplains, renewed annually during seasonal inundations. Consequently, Khadar soils are exceptionally fertile, highly moisture-retentive, and ideally suited for intensive agricultural practices compared to Bhangar.

14. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
The north-western portion of the Deccan Plateau is known as the Deccan Trap, famous for its deep black basaltic soil. However, this distinct terrain was created by massive fissure volcanic eruptions during the late Cretaceous period, releasing extensive flood basalts. It was not formed by glacial erosion, as glaciers played no role in shaping this volcanic lava landscape.

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15. (D) Chambal and Betwa
The Malwa Plateau occupies a transitional position between the Vindhya Range and the Northern Plains, extending into south-eastern Rajasthan. The region slopes towards the northeast and is primarily drained by the Chambal and Betwa river systems, along with their tributaries. These rivers flow northward into the Yamuna, carving deep gullies and ravines across the plateau.

16. (C) Aravalli Range
The Central Highlands form the northern division of the Peninsular Plateau, bounded to the south by the Vindhya Range and to the northwest by the ancient Aravalli Range. Running in a southwest to northeast direction, the Aravallis represent one of the oldest eroded fold mountain systems in the world, separating the desert region from the central plateaus.

17. (B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
The Chotanagpur Plateau is a mineral-rich tableland drained by the Damodar River. The Meghalaya Plateau forms a north-eastern extension of the Peninsular block, detached by the Garo-Rajmahal Gap. The Deccan Plateau is a triangular landmass extending south of the Narmada River, while Bundelkhand acts as a transitional plateau connecting the Vindhyan upland to the Gangetic plain.

18. (D) Mahendragiri — Cardamom Hills
Anamudi is the highest peak in Southern India, located in the Anaimalai Hills. Doda Betta is the highest peak in the Nilgiri Hills, while Kalsubai is the highest peak in the Sahyadri Range of Maharashtra. Mahendragiri is a prominent mountain peak situated in the Eastern Ghats of Odisha, not in the Cardamom Hills of the Western Ghats.

19. (A) Anaimalai Hills
The Javadi Hills, Shevroy Hills, and Nallamala Hills are all discontinuous hill ranges forming integral parts of the Eastern Ghats across Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. In contrast, the Anaimalai Hills belong to the continuous Western Ghats system, housing Anamudi, the highest peak in Peninsular India, near the border of Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

20. (D) I, II and III
The Thar Desert, located in western Rajasthan, is an arid region receiving sparse annual rainfall under 150 mm. Its landscape is dominated by wind-blown sand dunes, notably crescent-shaped barchans that migrate across open expanses. The Luni River serves as the only significant river system traversing this arid plain, disappearing into the Rann of Kutch.

21. (A) Kannad Coast
The Western Coastal Plain of India is divided into three distinct segments from North to South. The northern section extending along Maharashtra and Goa is called the Konkan Coast. The central section spanning between Goa and Mangalore is known as the Kannad Plain, while the southern section stretching along Kerala is designated as the Malabar Coast.

22. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The Eastern Coastal Plains are significantly broader, flatter, and more continuous than the narrow Western Coastal Plains. This expansive plain is formed by extensive deltaic deposits created by major east-flowing rivers including the Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, and Kaveri. These rivers carry vast sediment loads from the Peninsular hinterland, depositing them along the Bay of Bengal coast.

23. (B) Elevated portions of submarine mountains extending from the Arakan Yoma range.
The Andaman and Nicobar Islands form an oceanic archipelago located in the Bay of Bengal. Geologically, these islands represent the exposed crests and peaks of submerged mountain ranges that constitute a southward continuation of the Arakan Yoma range in Myanmar. They were uplifted due to complex tectonic activity during the tertiary collision of regional continental and oceanic plates.

24. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Lakshadweep Islands are a group of low-lying coral islands situated in the Arabian Sea. They are entirely composed of coral deposits, specifically atolls built by secretions of microscopic marine organisms called coral polyps over geological time. Because atolls develop around submerged platforms near sea level, the resulting landmasses remain flat with minimal elevation above water.

25. (A) Vindhya Range, Satpura Range, Ajanta Range, Nilgiri Hills
Arranging the prominent mountain ranges of the Peninsular Plateau from North to South begins with the Vindhya Range, which borders the Narmada valley. South of the Narmada lies the Satpura Range, followed further south by the Ajanta Range in Maharashtra. The Nilgiri Hills occupy the southernmost position among these, marking the convergence of the Ghats.

26. (A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
The Dharwar System is heavily metalliferous, containing high-grade iron ore, gold, and manganese. The Gondwana System contains over ninety-five percent of national coal reserves. The Vindhyan System is widely known for sandstone, limestone, and building materials used in monumental architecture. The Tertiary System contains significant sedimentary structures harboring major reserves of petroleum and natural gas deposits.

27. (B) The Northern Plains
The Northern Plains form the agricultural backbone of India, playing a vital role in national food security. Composed of deep, renewed alluvial soil deposited by major Himalayan river systems, this region features flat topography, abundant surface water, and accessible groundwater. These favorable conditions enable intensive multi-cropping and support high yields of staples like wheat and rice.

28. (B) Rugged topography with steep gradients
High population density and dense human settlements thrive in areas with flat terrain, fertile alluvial soils, and perennial water access, which support agriculture and infrastructure development. Conversely, rugged topography with steep gradients, thin soil layers, and difficult transport conditions restricts agricultural

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development and accessibility, making such hilly terrains unfavorable for dense human habitation.

29. (B) I, II, and IV only
The Himalayas represent youthful, tectonically active fold mountains with sharp peaks, deep gorges, and fast rivers. The Peninsular Plateau is a highly stable, ancient landmass characterized by broad, shallow valleys, rounded hills, and crystalline igneous and metamorphic rocks. Geologically, the Peninsular Plateau is vastly older than the recently uplifted Himalayan mountain system.

30. (C) Bangladesh
India shares its longest international land border with Bangladesh, spanning a total length of approximately 4,096 kilometers. This extensive boundary encircles eastern and northeastern Indian states, profoundly influencing the geopolitical geography, river drainage systems, and physical connectivity of the eastern regional landscape, including the vast Bengal deltaic plains.

31. (D) Tethys
According to plate tectonics, the ancient landmasses of LaurAsia and Gondwanaland were separated by a shallow Mediterranean sea known as the Tethys Geosyncline. Over millions of years, vast amounts of riverine sediments accumulated in this basin. When the Indian plate collided into the Eurasian plate, these Tethyan sedimentary rocks folded to form the Himalayas.

32. (C) The altitudinal variations are greater in the eastern half of the Himalayas than in the western half.
The Himalayan mountain arc exhibits greater altitudinal variations in its eastern sector compared to its western sector, creating dramatic ecological gradients within shorter distances. The range forms a curved arc rather than a straight line, narrowing from 400 kilometers in Kashmir to 150 kilometers in Arunachal Pradesh. It consists of fold mountains formed by compression.

33. (B) Siachen Glacier
The Karakoram Range hosts several of the longest alpine glaciers situated outside the polar regions. Among these, the Siachen Glacier is the largest and most famous, stretching approximately 76 kilometers in length. Located in the high-altitude Trans-Himalayan belt, it possesses immense Strategic significance and serves as a vital source for regional river basins.

34. (A) I and II only
The Ladakh Range lies north of the Zaskar Range within the Trans-Himalayan region. The Indus River flows through a prominent structural trough between these two ranges, cutting deep gorges across the rocky landscape. Neither range belongs to the Great Himalayas; both form distinct, elevated mountain chains situated inside the Trans-Himalayan geological zone.

35. (A) It is completely devoid of snow during the summer months.
The Great Himalayas, or Himadri, represent the highest and most continuous mountain range, maintaining an average elevation of 6,000 meters. The core of this range consists primarily of granite. Due to extreme elevations and sub-zero temperatures, its prominent peaks remain permanently snow-covered year-round, feeding major perennial glaciers, rather than melting completely during summer.

36. (B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
The Middle Himalayas, or Himachal, form an extremely rugged mountain system composed largely of highly compressed and altered rocks, shaped by severe tectonic deformation. The Pir Panjal Range constitutes the longest and most prominent individual range within this system. While both factual details are accurate, the length of Pir Panjal does not explain the rock compression.

37. (A) 10 to 50 km
The Shiwalik Range represents the outermost foothills of the Himalayan mountain system. It spans an average width ranging between 10 and 50 kilometers, while its altitude varies generally between 900 and 1,100 meters above sea level. This narrow, outer belt is composed mostly of unconsolidated coarse sediments brought down by mountain streams.

38. (D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
The Punjab Plains are formed predominantly by the Indus River and its five major tributaries. The Ganga Plains span across northern states between the Ghaggar and Teesta rivers. The Brahmaputra Plains lie mostly in Assam, bounded by the Teesta and Dihang rivers. A

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Doab refers to the land tract lying between two converging rivers.

39. (B) Khadar — Younger alluvium deposited on the flood plains
Khadar consists of younger, highly fertile alluvial deposits laid down annually by river floods across active floodplains. Bhabar is a dry, porous pebble belt where streams submerge. Tarai is a wet, marshy zone where subterranean water re-emerges south of Bhabar. Bhangar comprises older alluvium forming elevated river terrace structures above standard flood levels.

40. (A) 2, 1, 4, 3
Moving southwards from the Himalayan foothills, the Bhabar belt appears first as a porous pebble bed. Next lies the Tarai, a marshy zone where underground streams re-emerge. Further south are the elevated river terraces of Bhangar composed of older alluvium, followed by Khadar, which represents the low-lying active floodplains with renewed alluvium.

41. (B) I, II, and IV only
The Deccan Plateau is a triangular landmass situated south of the Narmada River, flanked on its northern base by the Satpura Range. It includes northeastern extensions such as the Meghalaya and Karbi-Anglong plateaus. Physically, the plateau slopes gently from west to east, making its western edge higher than its eastern boundary, driving major rivers eastward.

42. (A) The Malwa Plateau
The Hadoti Plateau occupies the south-eastern portion of Rajasthan, covering districts like Kota, Bundi, Baran, and Jhalawar. Physiographically, this plateau forms a direct extension of the Malwa Plateau, sharing identical geological origins characterized by basaltic lava flows, rolling upland plains, black agricultural soils, and drainage systems flowing toward the Chambal River basin.

43. (B) Kathiawar
The Central Highlands slope eastward from the Aravalli Range, featuring local extensions including Bundelkhand, Baghelkhand, and further east, the Chotanagpur Plateau. In contrast, Kathiawar is a peninsula situated in western Gujarat, forming a distinct coastal and landmass extension of the Peninsular block rather than an eastward extension of the inland Central Highlands.

44. (B) Damodar
The Chotanagpur Plateau is primarily drained by the Damodar River, which flows through a prominent structural rift valley. The Damodar Valley is globally renowned for hosting vast reserves of high-grade Gondwana coal, making it an indispensable industrial belt. Rivers like Narmada and Son drain other parts of central India outside this eastern mineral plateau.

45. (A) The leeward side of the Ghats
During the southwest monsoon, moisture-laden winds striking the western slopes of the Western Ghats are forced upward, causing heavy orographic precipitation along the windward coastal belt. As these air masses cross over the ridge line and descend onto the eastern slopes, they warm up and lose moisture, creating a dry rain-shadow zone on the leeward side.

46. (C) They are discontinuous and irregular, dissected by major rivers draining into the Bay of Bengal.
The Eastern Ghats form an irregular, discontinuous mountain range running parallel to the eastern sea coast. They are heavily dissected by major Peninsular rivers like the Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, and Kaveri, which flow eastward to empty into the Bay of Bengal. Their average elevation is lower than the continuous mountain chain of the Western Ghats.

47. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
The Thar Desert in Rajasthan is bordered on its south-eastern margin by the ancient Aravalli Hills. The alignment of the Aravalli Range runs parallel to the direction of incoming Arabian Sea monsoon winds. Consequently, these moisture-laden winds pass along the mountains without undergoing effective orographic uplift, contributing directly to regional hyper-aridity and desert formation.

48. (C) Northern Circars
The Western Coastal Plains are divided longitudinally into three main sections: the Konkan Coast in the north, the Kannad Coast in the central region, and the Malabar Coast in the south. In contrast, the Northern Circars refers to the northern part of the Eastern Coastal Plains

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along Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, facing the Bay of Bengal.

49. (C) Utkal Coast, Northern Circars, Coromandel Coast
Proceeding from North to South along the Eastern Coastal Plains, the northernmost section along the Odisha coastline is known as the Utkal Coast. Moving southward along the coastal belt of Andhra Pradesh lies the Northern Circars. The southernmost stretch of the eastern coast, spanning along Tamil Nadu, is designated as the Coromandel Coast.

50. (D) They are separated by a deep water body known as the Ten Degree Channel.
The Andaman and Nicobar Islands form an archipelagic chain in the Bay of Bengal, where the Andaman group lies to the north and the Nicobar group lies to the south. These two major island clusters are geographically separated by a wide water passage known as the Ten Degree Channel, measuring roughly 150 kilometers across.

51. (A) 32 sq km
Lakshadweep is the smallest Union Territory of India, consisting of 36 isolated coral islands, atolls, and reefs scattered in the Arabian Sea. The entire island group covers a remarkably compact land area of approximately 32 square kilometers. Kavaratti serves as the administrative headquarters of this sparsely populated, environmentally delicate archipelagic territory.

52. (D) I, II and III
Major elevated landforms act as principal water divides across India. The Aravalli Range divides the Indus basin from the Ganga system. The Western Ghats separate west-flowing streams entering the Arabian Sea from east-flowing Peninsular rivers. The Vindhya Range functions as a continental divide between northern Himalayan-fed river systems and southern Peninsular drainage basins.

53. (A) Basaltic lava rocks erupted during the Cretaceous period.
The black soil of the Deccan Trap was produced through extensive physical and chemical weathering of basaltic lava rocks. These volcanic flood basalts erupted over large areas during fissure eruptions toward the end of the Cretaceous period. The resulting clay-rich, moisture-retentive soil is rich in iron, lime, and magnesium, making it ideal for agriculture.

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54. (D) Thar Desert — Jute and Sugarcane cultivation
The Thar Desert is an extremely arid environment receiving low rainfall, making it unsuitable for water-intensive crops like jute and sugarcane, which require abundant irrigation and high atmospheric humidity. In contrast, the Northern Plains excel in wheat production, the Deccan Trap supports cotton, and the humid Malabar Coast is famous for spices and cash plantations.

55. (B) Rich alluvial soil, favorable climate, and abundant water supply for agriculture.
The Northern Plains have historically maintained exceptionally high population densities due to highly favorable agricultural conditions. The deep layer of fertile alluvial soil deposited continuously by river systems, combined with perennial water supplies and favorable climatic conditions, allowed prosperous agrarian economies to flourish, supporting large human settlements and urban developments over centuries.

56. (D) I, II, III, and IV
India's physiographic divisions perform complementary economic functions. The northern mountains supply freshwater and forest wealth. The northern plains form productive agricultural granaries. The Peninsular Plateau provides indispensable mineral reserves driving heavy industries. Meanwhile, the long coastal stretches and offshore island chains foster maritime trade, commercial fishing, and major deep-water ports.

57. (D) 82°30' E
The longitude of 82°30' E, passing near Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh, is officially designated as the Standard Meridian of India. This meridian was chosen because it lies roughly in the middle of the country's longitudinal extent, establishing Indian Standard Time, which is exactly five hours and thirty minutes ahead of Greenwich Mean Time.

58. (B) North
Millions of years ago, the Indian tectonic plate formed part of the ancient supercontinent Gondwanaland. Following structural breakup, the Indian plate drifted northwards across the

Equator. This prolonged northward movement eventually led to its high-impact collision with the massive Eurasian plate, triggering the folding and uplift of the Himalayan mountain range system.

59. (B) Nanga Parbat and Namcha Barwa
The Himalayan mountain range features sharp hair-pin bends, known as syntaxial bends, at its western and eastern extremities. The western syntaxial bend curves sharply around Nanga Parbat near the Indus gorge, while the eastern syntaxial bend turns abruptly southward past Namcha Barwa around the deep Brahmaputra gorge into the Purvanchal hills.

60. (B) Great Himalayas
The cold desert of Ladakh situated in the Trans-Himalayan region experiences hyper-arid climate conditions primarily because the soaring wall of the Great Himalayas stands directly to its south. This massive mountain barrier blocks incoming moisture-bearing monsoon winds from penetrating northward, forcing the region into an extreme rain-shadow environment with negligible annual precipitation.

61. (A) China (Tibet)
The Great Himalayas exhibit structural asymmetry, featuring steep southern faces and gentler northern slopes. The southern slopes descend abruptly toward the Indian plains and Nepal, whereas the gentle northern slopes merge gradually into the vast, elevated Tibetan Plateau, controlled by China. This topographical arrangement reflects southward-directed compressional forces during plate collision.

62. (C) Nepal
The Mahabharat Range constitutes a prominent mountain chain belonging to the Lesser (Middle) Himalayas. Running in a west-to-east direction, this range is located almost entirely within the country of Nepal. It features steep, forested slopes and deep river valleys, standing parallel to the Great Himalayan Range to its north.

63. (D) Sediments brought down by rivers from the northern Himalayan ranges.
The Shiwaliks are composed mostly of unconsolidated river deposits including sand, gravel, silt, and heavy clay. These vast sedimentary materials were brought down from the higher Himalayan ranges by swift-flowing rivers and streams. Over time, these thick fluviatile sediments accumulated in the outer foredeep zone, subsequently undergoing folding during final uplift phases.

64. (C) Majuli
Majuli, situated in Assam within the braided channels of the Brahmaputra River, holds the distinction of being the largest inhabited riverine island in the world. It was formed due to heavy deposition of sediments when river velocity dropped along the flat plain, creating a unique, culturally rich riverine landmass surrounded by water.

65. (B) They disappear underground due to the high porosity of pebble deposits.
As swift mountain streams descend from the Himalayas, they deposit heavy pebbles and coarse gravel along the narrow Bhabar belt at the foothills. The unassorted nature of these coarse materials creates high surface porosity. Consequently, streams sink beneath these gravel beds and disappear from view, flowing subterraneously until re-emerging in Tarai.

66. (D) Bhangar
Bhangar represents the older alluvial deposits of the Northern Plains, forming elevated terrace-like landforms positioned above modern river flood levels. These higher grounds remain unaffected by normal annual flooding, unlike the low-lying Khadar plains. Bhangar soils frequently contain calcareous formations called Kankar and are slightly less fertile than recently renewed flood soils.

67. (A) Kanyakumari
Kanyakumari, located at the southernmost tip of Tamil Nadu, represents the southernmost point of the Indian peninsular mainland. Situated at the confluence of the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal, and the Indian Ocean, it marks the geographic terminus of the mainland, whereas Indira Point forms the southernmost island point.

68. (C) Malda Fault
The main Peninsular block was geographically separated from its northeastern extension—the Meghalaya and Karbi-Anglong Plateau—by a major structural subsidence known as the Malda Fault or Garo-Rajmahal Gap. Over time, this down-faulted depression was filled with heavy

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riverine sediments brought down by the Ganga and Brahmaputra rivers, forming Bengal.

69. (A) Badland topography
Severe gully erosion along the Chambal River and its tributaries has transformed the fertile landscape of the Malwa plateau into deep ravines and intricate networks of gullies. This severely dissected, heavily eroded, and unfarmable landscape is known as badland topography, rendering large tracts of land difficult for normal agricultural utilization.

70. (D) Narmada
The Narmada River originates near the Amarkantak Plateau in Madhya Pradesh, bounded by the Vindhya Range to the north and the Satpura Range to the south. It flows westward through a prominent structural rift valley created by tectonic faulting, eventually emptying into the Gulf of Khambhat in the Arabian Sea.

71. (B) Punjab
The Chotanagpur Plateau spans across eastern Peninsular India, covering large parts of Jharkhand along with adjoining portions of West Bengal, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, and Bihar. Punjab is located far to the northwest in the alluvial plains of the Indus river system, sharing no geographical connection with this eastern mineral-rich plateau region.

72. (C) Bhor Ghat
Bhor Ghat is a major mountain pass situated in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra. It provides a vital transport link through steep terrain, connecting the coastal plain of Mumbai with the elevated interior plateau city of Pune. Thal Ghat connects Mumbai to Nashik, while Palghat links Kerala to Tamil Nadu further south.

73. (D) Arma Konda
Arma Konda, also known as Jindhagada Peak, stands at an elevation of 1,680 meters in Andhra Pradesh, representing the highest mountain peak in the Eastern Ghats. It surpasses other eastern peaks like Mahendragiri in height. Peaks like Anamudi and Doda Betta are located in the Western Ghats, while Guru Shikhar belongs to Aravalli.

74. (A) Nilgiri Hills
The Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats converge at the Nilgiri Hills, forming a prominent mountainous knot in southern India near the tri-junction of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka. This mountain junction features high rolling uplands, dense forest ecosystems, and prominent summits like Doda Betta, bridging western and eastern coastal ranges.

75. (B) Playas
In the hyper-arid environment of the Thar Desert, inland drainage leads to the accumulation of surface runoff in shallow depressions between migrating sand dunes. These temporary, highly saline lakes are locally termed playas or ranns. Upon evaporation during dry seasons, they yield salt deposits that are frequently harvested for local salt production.

76. (B) Loo
During early summer, the arid regions of Rajasthan and the adjacent northern plains experience scorching, extremely dry, and gusty westerly winds known as Loo. Blowing intensely during afternoon hours, these hot land winds drastically increase ambient temperatures, causing heatwaves and severe dehydration, contrasting with coastal maritime breezes occurring along southern shores.

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77. (A) Kayals
The Malabar Coast of Kerala features a unique network of shallow, brackish backwaters, lagoons, and estuaries running parallel to the coastline, locally known as Kayals. Formed by wave action and river deposition, iconic examples like Vembanad Lake support commercial fishing, inland water transport, and annual traditional snake-boat races during festive seasons.

78. (C) Odisha
Lake Chilika is situated along the Utkal Coast in the state of Odisha, serving as the largest brackish water lagoon in Asia. Separated from the Bay of Bengal by a narrow sandy spit, it provides critical wintering grounds for migratory birds and supports rich marine biodiversity along the eastern coastal plain.

79. (D) Andaman Sea
Barren Island, located in the Andaman Sea approximately 138 kilometers east of Port Blair, contains the only active volcano in South Asia. Geologically part of the volcanic arc associated with the subduction zone between the Indian and

Burmese tectonic plates, it features a volcanic cone rising above the surrounding oceanic waters.

80. (C) Kavaratti
Kavaratti is a small, picturesque coral island that serves as the administrative headquarters and official capital of the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. Located in the Arabian Sea, this low-lying island features a pristine marine lagoon, abundant coral reefs, administrative buildings, and key facilities supporting regional maritime and governance activities.

81. (B) Guru Shikhar
The Aravalli Range is one of the world's oldest fold mountain systems, running southwest-northeast across Rajasthan. The highest peak of this ancient eroded range is Guru Shikhar, reaching an elevation of 1,722 meters above sea level near Mount Abu, acting as a major drainage divide between regional river systems.

82. (D) An elevated area, such as a mountain or an upland, that separates two drainage basins.
A watershed or drainage divide is a elevated topographical feature, such as a mountain range, ridge, or plateau, that physically separates two adjacent drainage basins or river systems. Precipitation falling on opposite sides of this divide flows in different directions into distinct stream networks, dictating regional hydrological flow paths.

83. (A) Cenozoic Era
The uplift of the Himalayas occurred during the Cenozoic Era, beginning approximately 50 to 60 million years ago. This mountain-building process took place in multiple distinct tectonic phases throughout the Tertiary period as the Indian plate collided with the Eurasian plate, turning ancient Tethyan sediments into high fold mountain ranges.

84. (D) Over 95%
The Gondwana rock system represents the main source of fossil fuels in India, containing over ninety-five percent of the country's total coal reserves. Formed in ancient rift basins during the Upper Paleozoic to Mesozoic eras, these extensive sedimentary formations are concentrated in river valleys like Damodar, Mahanadi, Son, and Godavari.

85. (A) Tank irrigation
The Peninsular Plateau features hard crystalline bedrock, thin soil cover, and undulating surface topography, which severely limit deep canal excavation and groundwater tube-well drilling. Consequently, building traditional surface reservoirs across natural depressions—known as tank irrigation—has historically been the most effective and widely practiced method for collecting seasonal rainwater.

86. (D) Scarcity of water resources and low agricultural carrying capacity
In western Rajasthan, extreme aridity, scanty rainfall, and widespread desert sand dunes restrict surface water availability and agricultural productivity. Human settlements are forced to disperse around scattered water sources like wells, oases, and seasonal ponds. This low agricultural carrying capacity prevents dense, compact village clusters from developing across the landscape.

87. (B) The Northern Plains
The Northern Plains possess the densest railway network in India due to their extremely flat slope, high agricultural productivity, and high population density. Flat alluvial topography facilitates rail track construction at relatively low cost compared to rugged mountain ranges or dissected plateaus, allowing seamless transport connections across major cities.

88. (C) They are seasonal, dependent largely on rainfall, and flow through broad, shallow valleys.
Unlike perennial Himalayan rivers fed by melting snow, most Peninsular rivers are rain-fed and experience seasonal discharge variations, often drying up significantly during summer. Originating from geologically ancient plateaus, these rivers have reached mature erosion stages, flowing through broad, shallow valleys with gentle gradients and low erosional activity.

89. (D) The Northern Plains
The Northern Plains act as an expansive transitional zone between the ancient, stable Peninsular Plateau to the south and the young, tectonically active Himalayas to the north. Formed by riverine sediments filling a foredeep depression between these two distinct geological regimes, the plains bridge contrasting topographies and tectonic environments.

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90. (B) Six

Standard geographical classification divides India into six major physiographic units: The Northern and Northeastern Mountains, The Northern Plains, The Peninsular Plateau, The Indian Desert, The Coastal Plains, and The Islands. Each division exhibits distinct geological origins, topographical features, rock formations, drainage systems, and micro-climatic characteristics across the subcontinent.

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CHAPTER 02
Climate and Monsoon System of India

1. The Himalayas act as a major climatic divide for India. Which of the following best describes their primary climatic role?
(A) They prevent the southwest monsoon winds from escaping into Central Asia.
(B) They block the cold, dry winds from Central Asia from entering the subcontinent.
(C) Both A and B are correct.
(D) They generate the tropical easterly jet stream during summer.

2. Which of the following latitudes roughly divides India into two equal halves, significantly influencing its temperature distribution?
(A) Equator
(B) Tropic of Capricorn
(C) Tropic of Cancer
(D) Arctic Circle

3. Altitude plays a crucial role in temperature variations across India. Which of the following pairs of cities, despite being located at similar latitudes, exhibits a stark contrast in average summer temperature primarily due to altitude?
(A) Mumbai and Pune
(B) Agra and Darjeeling
(C) Delhi and Jaipur
(D) Chennai and Kochi

4. Match the Koeppen's climate classifications in List I with their corresponding regions in India in List II:
List I: Climate Classification
P. Amw
Q. Cwg
R. BShw
S. Aw
List II: Region in India
1. Ganga Plain
2. Western Coast of India
3. Peninsular Plateau (most parts)
4. Semi-arid steppe region of Rajasthan
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

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5. According to Koeppen's climatic classification, the 'BWhw' type of climate is found in which of the following regions of Rajasthan?
(A) Extreme Western Rajasthan
(B) North-Eastern region of Rajasthan
(C) South-Eastern region of Rajasthan
(D) Southeastern Hadoti Plateau region

6. In Koeppen's classification, what does the letter 'w' in 'Cwg' indicate?
(A) Dry summer
(B) Warm summer
(C) Dry winter
(D) Desert climate

7. Which of the following is the primary reason for the low temperatures in northern India during the winter season (December-February)?
(A) Slant sun rays and distance from the sea
(B) Direct influence and proximity to the oceanic waters
(C) Continuous influence of the Northeast trade winds
(D) Persistent presence of the equatorial El Nino effect

8. Consider the following statements regarding the winter season in India:
I. A high-pressure center develops over the northwestern region of India.
II. The prevailing winds blow from land to sea.
III. The entire country receives heavy rainfall during this season.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

9. The hot, dry, and oppressing winds blowing in the Northern plains of India during the summer months are locally known as:
(A) Mango showers
(B) Loo
(C) Kal Baisakhi
(D) Cherry Blossom

10. Arrange the following regions in the chronological order in which they normally receive the Southwest Monsoon:
I. Kerala Coast
II. Mumbai
III. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
IV. National Capital Region of Delhi
(A) I, III, II, IV
(B) III, I, II, IV
(C) III, I, IV, II
(D) I, II, III, IV

11. The Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) is a broad trough of low pressure. Where is it located during the Indian summer monsoon season?
(A) Positioned directly over the Equatorial belt
(B) Positioned along the Southern Tropic of Capricorn
(C) Stationed across the southern region of the Indian Ocean
(D) Over the Ganga plain

12. During the retreating monsoon season, the moisture for the rainfall on the Coromandel Coast is primarily picked up from which water body?
(A) Bay of Bengal
(B) Arabian Sea
(C) Indian Ocean
(D) Gulf of Mannar

13. Consider the following factors associated with the mechanism of the Indian Monsoon:
I. Intense heating of the Tibetan plateau.
II. The presence of the high-pressure area east of Madagascar.
III. Movement of the westerly jet stream to the north of the Himalayas.
IV. Presence of the tropical easterly jet stream over the Indian peninsula.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) II, III and IV only
(C) I, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

14. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Southwest monsoon bifurcates into the Arabian Sea branch and the Bay of Bengal branch.
Reason (R): The topographical shape of the Indian Peninsula splits the advancing monsoon winds.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

15. From which part of India does the withdrawal of the Southwest monsoon typically begin first in September?
(A) North-Western states
(B) North-Eastern states
(C) Peninsular India
(D) Eastern coastal plains

16. The El Nino phenomenon, which significantly impacts the Indian monsoon, originates in which of the following oceans?
(A) Equatorial region of the Indian Ocean
(B) Northern region of the Atlantic Ocean
(C) Eastern Pacific Ocean
(D) Antarctic zone of the Southern Ocean

17. Match the climatic phenomena in List I with their typical impact on India in List II:
List I: Climatic Phenomena
P. El Nino
Q. La Nina
R. Positive Indian Ocean Dipole
S. Negative Indian Ocean Dipole
List II: Impact on India
1. Suppresses Indian monsoon rainfall
2. Enhances Indian monsoon rainfall
3. Above average monsoon rainfall (cooler eastern Indian ocean)
4. Suppressed monsoon rainfall (warmer eastern Indian ocean)
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

18. What is the general impact of the La Nina phenomenon on the Indian monsoon?
(A) It consistently causes severe and widespread drought conditions across the entire Indian subcontinent.
(B) It leads to an abnormally early and rapid withdrawal of the southwest monsoon winds.

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(C) It brings normal to above-normal monsoon rainfall.
(D) It completely neutralizes the weather impact caused by winter Western Disturbances.

19. Select the correct descending sequence of the following regions based on their average annual rainfall (Highest to Lowest):
(A) Western Ghats → Ganga Plains → Western Rajasthan
(B) Western Rajasthan → Ganga Plains → Western Ghats
(C) Ganga Plains → Western Ghats → Western Rajasthan
(D) Western Ghats → Western Rajasthan → Ganga Plains

20. Identify the odd one out among the following locations based on their typical annual rainfall category:
(A) Cherrapunji
(B) Mawsynram
(C) Mahabaleshwar
(D) Jaisalmer

21. During the summer season, the highest temperatures in India are typically recorded in which of the following regions?
(A) Thar Desert
(B) Coastal plains of the Malabar region
(C) Eastern region of Chhota Nagpur Plateau
(D) Riverine plains of the Brahmaputra Valley

22. Consider the following conditions for the formation of tropical cyclones:
I. Sea surface temperature above 27 degrees Celsius.
II. Presence of the Coriolis force.
III. High variations in the vertical wind speed (high wind shear).
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

23. Which of the following coastal regions of India is most severely affected by tropical cyclones during the post-monsoon (retreating monsoon) season?
(A) Coromandel Coast
(B) Western coastal strip of the Konkan region
(C) South-western coastal belt of Malabar
(D) North-western coastline of Gujarat

24. The center of a tropical cyclone, characterized by calm subsiding air and clear skies, is known as the:
(A) Eyewall
(B) Spiral band
(C) Trough
(D) Eye

25. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Northwestern India receives rainfall during winter which is highly beneficial for Rabi crops.
Reason (R): The winter rainfall in Northwestern India is caused by the retreating Southwest monsoon.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

26. The winter rainfall caused by Western Disturbances in Rajasthan is locally known as:
(A) Amra Vrishti
(B) Kal Baisakhi
(C) Mawat
(D) Loo

27. Which district in Rajasthan experiences the highest frequency of drought years due to its highly variable and scanty rainfall?
(A) Banswara district
(B) Jhalawar district
(C) Kota district
(D) Jaisalmer

28. Consider the following statements regarding the flood-prone regions of India:
I. The Brahmaputra valley is highly prone to floods due to heavy rainfall and heavy siltation.
II. The peninsular rivers are more prone to frequent devastating floods than Himalayan rivers.
III. Cyclonic storms cause severe floods in the eastern coastal delta regions.
IV. Deforestation in the Himalayan catchments

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has increased the flood frequency in the northern plains.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, III and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

29. The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), responsible for forecasting the monsoon and monitoring climate patterns, currently has its headquarters situated in:
(A) Pune, Maharashtra
(B) New Delhi
(C) Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
(D) Kolkata, West Bengal

30. What is the observed impact of climate change on the Indian monsoon patterns in recent decades?
(A) A continuous, steady, and completely uniform increase in annual rainfall distribution across all meteorological districts.
(B) More frequent extreme rainfall events and prolonged dry spells.
(C) The complete structural disappearance of the low-pressure monsoon trough from the subcontinent.
(D) A continuous delay in the seasonal withdrawal phase without any measurable variation in rainfall intensity.

31. Because the agricultural sector heavily relies on the timing and distribution of rainfall, the Indian budget is traditionally referred to as:
(A) A gamble in the monsoon
(B) A reflection of industrial growth
(C) An agrarian surplus model
(D) A climate-resilient framework

32. Match the jet streams and atmospheric phenomena in List I with their seasonal characteristics over India in List II:
List I: Jet Streams and Atmospheric Phenomena
P. Sub-tropical Westerly Jet Stream
Q. Tropical Easterly Jet Stream
R. Somali Jet
S. Western Disturbances
List II: Seasonal Characteristics
1. Influences winter weather in North India
2. Blows north of the Himalayas during summer
3. Strengthens the Southwest monsoon from the Indian Ocean
4. Present over Peninsular India during the summer months
(A) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(D) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3

33. Which jet stream is believed to be primarily responsible for steering the tropical depressions into India, thereby influencing the distribution of monsoon rainfall?
(A) Sub-tropical westerly jet stream
(B) Polar night jet stream
(C) Mid-latitude jet stream
(D) Tropical easterly jet stream

34. Which side of the Western Ghats receives comparatively much less rainfall, acting as a rain shadow region?
(A) Western slopes
(B) Northern edges
(C) Eastern slopes
(D) Coastal plains

35. The term 'Monsoon' is derived from the Arabic word 'Mausim'. What does it literally mean?
(A) Heavy continuous rain
(B) Season
(C) Wind direction reversal
(D) Ocean currents

36. Consider the following statements regarding the Long Range Forecast of monsoon by the IMD:
I. It provides predictions for the rainfall over the entire country for the period of June to September.
II. It relies entirely on indigenous satellite data without any statistical modeling.
III. It uses parameters like sea surface temperature in the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

37. In which year was the India Meteorological Department (IMD) established?
(A) 1875
(B) 1901
(C) 1947
(D) 1950

38. The pre-monsoon showers in Karnataka and Kerala that help in the early ripening of a particular fruit are known as:

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(A) Bardoli Chheerha
(B) Norwesters
(C) Mango showers
(D) Kal Baisakhi

39. Which violent storms occurring in West Bengal during the pre-monsoon season are notorious for their destructive nature?
(A) Kal Baisakhi
(B) Loo
(C) Mango Showers
(D) Cherry Blossoms

40. What is meant by a 'Break' in the monsoon?
(A) The sudden and violent onset of heavy precipitation across the country in early June.
(B) The final, complete seasonal withdrawal of the monsoon winds by late October.
(C) Continuous, uninterrupted torrential rainfall extending without stopping for months.
(D) Rainless periods lasting a few days or weeks during the monsoon.

41. Which geographical feature forces the Bay of Bengal branch of the Southwest monsoon to deflect towards the Indian plains instead of continuing towards Myanmar?
(A) Nilgiri Hills
(B) Arakan Hills
(C) Vindhya Range
(D) Western Ghats

42. What is the 'Mascarene High' which plays a crucial role in the intensity of the Indian monsoon?
(A) A massive high-altitude mountain range situated in Central Asia
(B) An intensely high-temperature desert zone located in the Thar Desert
(C) High-pressure zone in the south Indian Ocean
(D) A semi-permanent low-pressure trough situated over the Tibetan Plateau

43. The thermal equator shifts northwards during the Indian summer. What is its approximate position during July?
(A) 5 degrees North latitude
(B) 10 degrees North latitude
(C) 20 to 25 degrees North latitude
(D) 35 to 40 degrees North latitude

44. Which of the following factors is responsible for Rajasthan receiving very little rainfall during the Southwest monsoon?
(A) The Aravalli Range lies parallel to the direction of the Arabian Sea branch.
(B) The state is too far from the Bay of Bengal branch to receive moisture.
(C) The intense heat prevents condensation of moisture.
(D) All of the above.

45. Consider the following statements about the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ):
I. It is a zone of high pressure located at the equator.
II. It is a zone where the Northeast and Southeast trade winds converge.
III. In summer, it moves northwards over the Indian subcontinent.
IV. Its presence over the Ganga plain creates a monsoon trough.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) II, III and IV only
(C) I, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

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46. During the retreating monsoon season, clear skies and a rise in temperature, combined with high humidity, create oppressive weather conditions. This phenomenon is commonly known as:
(A) Mango showers
(B) October Heat
(C) Western Disturbance
(D) Monsoon Break

47. The Northeast monsoon is generally dry for most of India because:
(A) It blows from land to sea.
(B) It continuously blows directly from the open sea to the landmass.
(C) It forms an extremely unstable, violent, and turbulent wind system.
(D) It gets completely blocked by the high ranges of the Western Ghats.

48. The average annual rainfall of India is approximately:
(A) 50 cm
(B) 80 cm
(C) 118 cm
(D) 200 cm

49. Why does Leh receive extremely low annual rainfall (less than 10 cm)?
(A) It is geographically located far too close to the equatorial thermal zone.
(B) It completely lacks the minimum threshold altitude required for cloud precipitation.
(C) It is perpetually influenced by the movement of warm maritime ocean currents.
(D) It lies in the rain shadow of the Himalayas.

50. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Tamil Nadu coast remains relatively dry during the Southwest monsoon season.
Reason (R): The Tamil Nadu coast is situated parallel to the Bay of Bengal branch and lies in the rain shadow area of the Arabian Sea branch.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

51. The term 'El Nino' is Spanish for 'The Little Boy' or 'Christ Child'. Why was it given this name?
(A) It was historically first documented by young children playing along the Pacific coastline.
(B) It appears around Christmas off the South American coast.
(C) It traditionally brings very gentle, mild, child-like seasonal rains to the region.
(D) It is fundamentally classified as a minor, highly localized short-term weather event.

52. The 'Walker Circulation' is an ocean-atmosphere phenomenon primarily observed in which region, heavily influencing the Indian monsoon?
(A) Atlantic Ocean
(B) Arctic Ocean
(C) Southern Ocean
(D) Pacific Ocean

53. A 'Positive Indian Ocean Dipole' (IOD) is characterized by:
(A) Warmer than normal sea surface temperatures in the western Indian Ocean and cooler in the east.
(B) Cooler than normal sea surface temperatures in the western Indian Ocean and warmer in the east.
(C) Uniformly high sea surface temperatures across the entire Indian Ocean.
(D) Uniformly low sea surface temperatures across the entire Indian Ocean.

54. How does a Positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) typically interact with the Indian monsoon?
(A) It invariably triggers severe and widespread nationwide drought conditions every single year.
(B) It consistently delays the seasonal onset of the southwest monsoon by exactly one full month.
(C) It enhances monsoon rainfall, often counteracting El Nino.
(D) It causes unprecedented extreme snowfall across the entire Himalayan range during summer months.

55. Select the correct chronological sequence of the withdrawal of the Southwest monsoon from the following regions:
(A) Northwestern India → Central India → Southern Peninsula
(B) Southern Peninsula → Central India → Northwestern India
(C) Central India → Northwestern India → Southern Peninsula
(D) Northwestern India → Southern Peninsula → Central India

56. The tropical cyclones that form in the Bay of Bengal usually move in which general direction before recurving or hitting the coast?
(A) West to Northwest
(B) Directly from West to East across the region
(C) Straight from North to South along the coastline
(D) Continuously from South to North towards the poles

57. In the naming convention of tropical cyclones in the North Indian Ocean, which organization oversees the allocation of names provided by member countries?
(A) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
(B) WMO / ESCAP Panel
(C) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
(D) World Bank Group International Financial

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58. Which of the following conditions is NOT favorable for the rapid intensification of a tropical cyclone in the Bay of Bengal?
(A) High sea surface temperature
(B) High relative humidity in the lower and middle troposphere
(C) High vertical wind shear
(D) Strong Coriolis force

59. Western Disturbances originate over the Mediterranean Sea. Which wind system carries them towards the Indian subcontinent?
(A) Prevailing Northeast trade winds system
(B) High-altitude tropical easterly jet stream
(C) Low-level polar easterlies wind belt
(D) Westerly jet stream

60. What is the primary characteristic of the precipitation caused by Western Disturbances in the Himalayan region?
(A) Mountain snow and plain rain
(B) Widespread violent thunderstorms accompanied by destructive winds
(C) Continuous torrential heavy downpours leading to instant flash floods
(D) Severe localized hailstorms occurring exclusively without any rainfall

61. According to the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), a 'Severe Drought' is declared when the rainfall deficiency over a meteorological subdivision is:
(A) Between 10% to 25% of the long period average
(B) Between 26% to 50% of the long period average
(C) Exceeds 50% of the long period average
(D) Exceeds 75% of the long period average

62. The 'Desert Development Programme' (DDP) was initiated by the Government of India primarily to mitigate the effects of drought. In Rajasthan, this programme largely focuses on which geographical region?
(A) Southern Mewar region
(B) Western districts
(C) Southeastern Hadoti plateau
(D) Southern Vagad region

63. Which state in India is most vulnerable to devastating floods due to the shifting course of the Kosi river during the monsoon?
(A) Bihar
(B) Assam
(C) West Bengal
(D) Odisha

64. The IMD uses a statistical model for Long Range Forecasting based on Ensemble Multiple Linear Regression. Which of the following is an essential requirement for this type of statistical forecasting?
(A) Real-time high-resolution satellite imagery tracking cloud cover patterns
(B) Daily surface wind speed measurements gathered along the equatorial zone
(C) Historical data and precursor parameters
(D) Continuous deep-sea submarine water temperature readings across oceans

65. Match the local pre-monsoon showers in List I with the states they are predominantly associated with in List II:
List I: Pre-Monsoon Shower
P. Cherry Blossom Showers
Q. Kal Baisakhi
R. Mango Showers
S. Bardoli Chheerha
List II: State
1. Assam
2. Kerala
3. West Bengal
4. Karnataka
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

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66. The 'Monsoon Mission' was launched by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, India. What is its primary objective?
(A) To systematically construct major mega-dams across all national rivers to store surplus monsoon water.
(B) To carry out widespread artificial cloud seeding operations over designated drought-prone inland regions.
(C) To advance monsoon predictions via dynamic modeling.
(D) To continuously monitor and track the total economic output of all rain-fed monsoon-dependent crops.

67. Which Ministry of the Government of India oversees the functioning of the India Meteorological Department (IMD)?
(A) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate

Change
(B) Ministry of Earth Sciences
(C) Ministry of Science and Technology
(D) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

68. The Kharif cropping season in India is inherently tied to the monsoon. When does the sowing for Kharif crops primarily begin?
(A) With the onset of winter
(B) During the retreating monsoon
(C) After the harvesting of Rabi crops in May
(D) With the onset of the Southwest monsoon

69. During the winter season, which specific pressure system drives the cold, dry winds from the Asian continent towards the Indian Ocean?
(A) Siberian High
(B) Aleutian Low
(C) Equatorial Trough
(D) Bermuda High

70. Consider the following statements regarding the Northeast Monsoon:
I. It provides significant rainfall to the state of Tamil Nadu.
II. The wind direction is from land to sea over most parts of the country.
III. It brings continuous rain to the entire North Indian plain.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

71. Which Koeppen climate classification applies to the Coromandel coast, which receives rainfall during the winter season?
(A) As
(B) Aw
(C) Amw
(D) Cwg

72. What happens when the Arabian Sea branch and the Bay of Bengal branch of the Southwest monsoon merge over the northwestern plains of the Ganga?
(A) They immediately cause an abrupt, prolonged seasonal break in the monsoon rainfall.
(B) They completely neutralize each other upon impact, causing an extended dry spell.
(C) They rapidly reverse their overall flow direction and retreat back to the oceans.
(D) They cause widespread rain over the northwestern plains.

73. Which of the following states experiences a distinctly bi-modal rainfall pattern (receiving significant precipitation during both the Southwest monsoon and winter from Western Disturbances)?
(A) Coastal state of Tamil Nadu
(B) Himachal Pradesh
(C) Southwestern state of Kerala
(D) Eastern coastal state of Odisha

74. Which atmospheric feature acts as a 'lid' over the Indian subcontinent in winter, trapping cold air and maintaining dry conditions until it shifts north in summer?
(A) High-altitude tropical easterly jet stream
(B) Equatorial Inter Tropical Convergence Zone
(C) Westerly jet stream
(D) Western Indian Ocean Somali Current system

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75. Arrange the following cities in ascending order of their average annual rainfall (Lowest to Highest):
I. Jodhpur
II. Delhi
III. Kolkata
IV. Shillong
(A) I, II, III, IV
(B) IV, III, II, I
(C) I, III, II, IV
(D) II, I, III, IV

76. The 'Southern Oscillation' index (SOI) is calculated based on the difference in atmospheric pressure between which two locations?
(A) Tahiti and Darwin
(B) Coastal city of Mumbai and the island of Madagascar
(C) Jakarta in Indonesia and Lima in Peru
(D) Colombo in Sri Lanka and Cape Town in South Africa

77. Which of the following is NOT a primary reason for the unequal distribution of rainfall in India?
(A) The regional orientation and alignment of mountain ranges
(B) Soil type uniformity
(C) Relative geographical distance from nearby oceanic water bodies
(D) The seasonal directional movement of moisture-bearing winds

78. Why are tropical cyclones less frequent in the Arabian Sea compared to the Bay of Bengal?
(A) The Arabian Sea consistently maintains a significantly higher average sea surface temperature year-round.
(B) Higher wind shear and cooler water in the Arabian Sea.
(C) The Arabian Sea basin is physically much shallower compared to the deep Bay of Bengal waters.
(D) The planetary Coriolis force is completely absent across the entire expanse of the Arabian Sea.

79. The 'pulsating' nature of the Indian monsoon refers to:
(A) Alternating wet and dry spells
(B) Its physical capacity to trigger seismic activity and severe earthquakes
(C) The unpredictable, highly variable changing of wind directions every single day
(D) The sudden, drastic, and constant drops in atmospheric temperature at night

80. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Arabian Sea branch of the monsoon is much more powerful than the Bay of Bengal branch.
Reason (R): The Arabian Sea is larger in size and the entire Arabian Sea current advances towards India.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

81. What is the 'MMCFS' model used by the IMD for monsoon forecasting?
(A) Meteorological Monsoon Calculation and Forecasting System
(B) Meteorological Model for Climate and Flood Systems
(C) Monsoon Measurement and Cyclonic Forecast System
(D) Monsoon Mission Coupled Forecasting System

82. Approximately what percentage of India's net sown area is primarily dependent on rainfall (un-irrigated)?
(A) 10-15%
(B) 25-30%
(C) 45-50%
(D) 85-90%

83. The term 'ENSO' stands for:
(A) Eastern Northern Southern Oscillation
(B) El Nino Southern Oscillation
(C) Equatorial Neutral Sea Oscillation
(D) Environmental Natural Systematic Oscillation

84. During the winter season, ground frost is a common occurrence in the northwestern plains of India. This is primarily facilitated by:
(A) Persistent high atmospheric humidity accompanied by dense cloudy skies
(B) Strong, uninterrupted western winds blowing continuously across the plains
(C) The active seasonal presence of the upper-level tropical easterly jet stream
(D) Clear skies and calm winds

85. Consider the following statements about the characteristics of Indian climate:
I. It is heavily influenced by the monsoon wind system.
II. There are large regional variations in temperature and precipitation.
III. The Himalayas protect the subcontinent from extremely cold Central Asian winds.
IV. Rainfall occurs evenly throughout all twelve months of the year.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and IV only
(B) I, II and III only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, III and IV only

86. Which region in India receives the highest average annual rainfall?
(A) The northern plains and western Rajasthan
(B) The Deccan plateau and eastern coastal plains
(C) The western coast and northeastern India
(D) The central highlands and Gujarat

87. The sudden approach of the moisture-laden winds associated with violent thunder and lightning in early June is termed as:
(A) The burst of the monsoon

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(B) The break of the monsoon
(C) The retreat of the monsoon
(D) The withdrawal of the monsoon

88. What is 'El Nino Modoki'?
(A) A severe climatic anomaly where the entire western region of the Pacific Ocean becomes extremely cold.
(B) A completely normal monsoon year characterized by the total absence of ocean surface temperature anomalies.
(C) A severe, highly localized winter storm system developing across the high altitudes of the Himalayas.
(D) Warming in central Pacific flanked by cooler waters.

89. Which among the following is a structural feature of India that aids in the orographic rainfall along the western coast?
(A) The Eastern Ghats
(B) The Western Ghats
(C) The Aravalli Range
(D) The Vindhyas

90. Which Indian state acts as the gateway to the Southwest monsoon, being the first to receive it?
(A) Tamil Nadu
(B) Gujarat
(C) Kerala
(D) West Bengal

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ANSWERS

1. (C) Both A and B are correct.
The Himalayan range plays a fundamental role in shaping the Indian subcontinent's climate. By standing as a tall physical barrier, it effectively blocks cold, dry continental air masses originating from Central Asia during winter. Simultaneously, during the summer monsoon, it traps moisture-laden southwest winds, forcing them to deposit precipitation across the fertile northern plains.

2. (C) Tropic of Cancer
The Tropic of Cancer passes horizontally through the center of India, dividing the nation into two distinct climatic zones. The region situated to the south of this latitude experiences a tropical climate with high temperatures year-round, while the region lying to the north falls within the sub-tropical zone with greater seasonal temperature variations.

3. (B) Agra and Darjeeling
Atmospheric temperature decreases with increasing altitude at a normal lapse rate of approximately six and a half degrees Celsius per thousand meters. Although Agra and Darjeeling are positioned along similar latitudinal belts, Darjeeling is situated high up in the Himalayan mountains, resulting in significantly cooler summer conditions compared to the lowland plains of Agra.

4. (D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Koeppen classified climate zones based on vegetation, temperature, and precipitation patterns. The monsoon climate with a short dry season characterizes the western coast. Monsoon with dry winter dominates the Ganga plain. The semi arid steppe covers parts of Rajasthan, while the tropical savanna climate extends across most of the Peninsular plateau.

5. (A) Extreme Western Rajasthan
In Koeppen's climate classification system, the code designation BWhw represents an arid desert climate characterized by extreme thermal conditions, high potential evapotranspiration, and extremely low rainfall. In India, this severe desert environment is exclusively present in extreme western Rajasthan, encompassing hyper arid desert districts such as Jaisalmer, Barmer, and parts of Bikaner.

6. (C) Dry winter
In Koeppen's climatic notation, lower-case letters specify the seasonal distribution of precipitation. The letter w specifically denotes a dry winter season, indicating that the majority of precipitation occurs during the summer months while winters remain predominantly dry. In Cwg, this dry winter characteristic applies to the humid subtropical climate of northern India.

7. (A) Slant sun rays and distance from the sea
Northern India experiences cold winter temperatures due to astronomical and geographical conditions. During winter, the apparent movement of the sun towards the Southern Hemisphere causes solar rays to strike northern latitudes at an oblique angle. Furthermore, the vast distance of the northern plains from oceanic moderating influences allows continental cooling to dominate.

8. (A) I and II only
During the winter season in India, intense cooling causes a high pressure system to establish over northwestern regions. As a result, dry offshore winds blow from the high pressure landmass toward the lower pressure oceanic areas. Consequently, most parts of the country remain dry, making the general assumption of widespread national rainfall incorrect.

9. (B) Loo
During the hot summer months, intense heating creates low pressure over northern India. This environment triggers strong, gusty, hot, and dry winds known locally as Loo. Blowing across the Indo-Gangetic plains during May and June, these scorching land winds carry extreme temperature spikes, causing dehydration and sunstroke if exposed to direct contact.

10. (B) III, I, II, IV
The southwest monsoon moves progressively northward across the Indian region. It first reaches the island territory of Andaman and Nicobar in mid-May. It then hits the mainland

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Kerala coast around June first. Proceeding along the west coast, it arrives in Mumbai by June tenth before advancing inland to reach Delhi around late June.

11. (D) Over the Ganga plain
The Inter Tropical Convergence Zone is an equatorial low-pressure belt where trade winds converge. During the northern summer, intense heating shifts this belt northward over the fertile Ganga plain. In this summer position, it is commonly referred to as the monsoon trough, playing a key role in attracting moisture-laden winds across India.

12. (A) Bay of Bengal
During autumn, the southwest monsoon retreats from northern India. As high pressure develops over the land, northeast winds blow toward the sea. Passing over the Bay of Bengal, these winds gather abundant moisture. When reaching the Coromandel Coast of Tamil Nadu, they deposit significant precipitation during October and November every year.

13. (D) I, II, III and IV
The Indian monsoon is driven by multiple interconnected factors. Tibetan heating forms high-altitude low pressure, while high pressure east of Madagascar powers cross-equatorial flow. Shift of westerly jet streams north of the Himalayas allows monsoon advance, and the tropical easterly jet stream over Peninsular India further reinforces the seasonal circulation pattern.

14. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
As the southwest monsoon approaches the southern tip of India, the triangular shape of the Peninsular landmass acts as a physical divider. This topography forces the moisture-bearing wind current to split into two distinct branches: the Arabian Sea branch on the west and the Bay of Bengal branch on the east.

15. (A) North-Western states
The withdrawal of the southwest monsoon is a gradual process starting from the northwestern region of India, including Rajasthan, around early September. As solar radiation decreases and land temperature drops, the low-pressure trough weakens, allowing the high-pressure land system to establish and push the monsoon winds southward out of the country.

16. (C) Eastern Pacific Ocean
El Nino is a complex climate pattern involving abnormal ocean surface warming off the western coast of South America in the eastern Pacific Ocean. This ocean warming disrupts global atmospheric pressure distributions and circulation cells, weakening trade winds and frequently leading to suppressed or deficient monsoon rainfall across the Indian subcontinent.

17. (D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
Oceanic and atmospheric phenomena strongly affect monsoon performance. El Nino generally suppresses Indian monsoon rainfall by weakening trade winds. La Nina enhances monsoon precipitation through favorable ocean temperatures. A positive Indian Ocean Dipole brings cooler eastern waters and aids rainfall, while a negative dipole warms eastern waters and suppresses precipitation over India.

18. (C) It brings normal to above-normal monsoon rainfall.
La Nina is characterized by periodic cooling of ocean sea surface temperatures in the equatorial central and eastern Pacific Ocean. This oceanic cooling strengthens trade winds and enhances atmospheric convection over the Indo-Pacific warm pool, typically resulting in normal to above-normal monsoon rainfall across the Indian subcontinent during summer.

19. (A) Western Ghats → Ganga Plains → Western Rajasthan
Annual rainfall distribution across India displays significant spatial variation due to topography and wind directions. The windward slopes of the Western Ghats receive heavy annual precipitation exceeding two hundred centimeters. The Ganga Plains receive moderate rainfall decreasing westward, while western Rajasthan remains arid, receiving very scant rainfall under twenty centimeters annually.

20. (D) Jaisalmer
Precipitation levels vary sharply across geographic zones in India. Cherrapunji and Mawsynram located in Meghalaya, along with Mahabaleshwar in the Western Ghats, represent high-rainfall zones receiving several hundred centimeters of rainfall annually. Conversely,

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Jaisalmer situated in the Thar Desert experiences hyper-arid climate conditions with extremely scanty rainfall under fifteen centimeters per year.

21. (A) Thar Desert
During the summer season, direct solar rays overhead combined with clear skies lead to intense terrestrial heating. The Thar Desert in northwestern India, characterized by sandy terrain and low vegetation, experiences the highest recorded summer temperatures in the country, with daily maximum temperatures frequently exceeding forty-five degrees Celsius during May and June.

22. (A) I and II only
Tropical cyclone formation requires specific environmental conditions. A warm ocean surface with sea temperature exceeding twenty-seven degrees Celsius provides crucial latent heat energy, while sufficient Coriolis force at non-equatorial latitudes facilitates rotational storm development. However, high vertical wind shear disrupts cyclonic development, making low wind shear necessary instead of high shear.

23. (A) Coromandel Coast
During the post-monsoon retreating season of October and November, tropical depressions and cyclonic storms frequently form over the Bay of Bengal. Driven by easterly winds, these severe storms predominantly track westward, making landfall along the Coromandel Coast of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, causing heavy downpours and severe storm surges.

24. (D) Eye
The central region of a fully developed tropical cyclone is termed the eye. Characterized by extremely low barometric pressure, light winds, subsiding air, and largely clear skies, this calm circular zone is surrounded by the intense eyewall, where the storm's most severe winds, dense cloudiness, and heaviest precipitation occur.

25. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
Northwestern India receives essential winter precipitation that benefits wheat and other winter crops. However, this winter rainfall is not caused by the retreating monsoon, but rather by shallow cyclonic systems called Western Disturbances. These weather systems originate over the Mediterranean Sea and travel eastward driven by westerly jet streams.

26. (C) Mawat
Winter rainfall in northwestern India originates from cyclonic storms known as Western Disturbances. In the state of Rajasthan, this winter precipitation is locally referred to as Mawat. Though light to moderate in volume, Mawat rainfall is extremely beneficial for the development and growth of winter Rabi crops like wheat and mustard.

27. (D) Jaisalmer
The district of Jaisalmer, situated in the heart of the Thar Desert, experiences the lowest annual rainfall in India. Characterized by high rain variability exceeding fifty percent and frequent failure of seasonal winds to deposit moisture, Jaisalmer suffers from severe, recurrent drought conditions more frequently than any other region.

28. (B) I, III and IV only
Flooding in India is influenced by physical geography and human activities. The Brahmaputra Valley faces heavy siltation and intense rainfall, while coastal deltas experience cyclonic floods. Deforestation accelerates runoff in northern catchments. However, Himalayan snow-fed perennial rivers are far more prone to severe flooding than peninsular rain-fed rivers, rendering statement two incorrect.

29. (B) New Delhi
The India Meteorological Department is the principal national agency overseeing meteorological observations, weather forecasting, and seismology. Established in 1875, its official headquarters was initially located in Calcutta, later shifted to Simla, then to Pune, and has been continuously positioned in New Delhi since 1944 to ensure centralized administrative coordination.

30. (B) More frequent extreme rainfall events and prolonged dry spells.
Recent global climate change has significantly altered precipitation patterns across the Indian subcontinent. Observational data indicates an increase in erratic rainfall behavior, characterized by higher frequency of localized short-duration extreme rainfall events, accompanied by prolonged dry spells during the traditional

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monsoon season, leading to heightened flood and drought risks.

31. (A) A gamble in the monsoon
Indian agriculture remains deeply dependent on seasonal rainfall for irrigating vast farmlands. Because unpredictable monsoon variations directly dictate agricultural yields, food security, rural consumption, and broader economic growth, national financial budgets and economic stability are traditionally referred to as being a gamble in the monsoon by economists and planners.

32. (C) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
Atmospheric flows dictate seasonal Indian weather patterns. The sub-tropical westerly jet shifts north of the Himalayas in summer, while the tropical easterly jet operates over the peninsula. The Somali jet accelerates moisture across the Indian Ocean to strengthen summer monsoons, and Western Disturbances bring important winter precipitation to northern regions.

33. (D) Tropical easterly jet stream
The tropical easterly jet stream forms during summer over Peninsular India due to intense Tibetan plateau heating. This upper-level wind stream plays a critical role in steering tropical depressions from the Bay of Bengal into the mainland, dictating the spatial distribution and frequency of rainfall across northern and central plains.

34. (C) Eastern slopes
When moisture-laden southwest monsoon winds strike the Western Ghats, they ascend the western windward slopes, cooling and causing heavy rainfall. After crossing the crest, the descending air warms and loses moisture. Consequently, the eastern slopes receive drastically reduced precipitation, creating a distinct rain shadow zone across the interior Deccan plateau.

35. (B) Season
The term monsoon originates from the Arabic word Mausim, which translates literally to season. Historically utilized by maritime traders navigating the Arabian Sea, the term describes the large-scale wind system characterized by a complete seasonal reversal of prevailing wind directions between summer and winter across the northern Indian Ocean region.

36. (B) I and III only
The India Meteorological Department issues long-range monsoon forecasts covering nationwide seasonal rainfall from June to September. These forecasts utilize complex statistical models incorporating sea surface temperatures and atmospheric pressure indices from the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Claiming reliance solely on satellite data without statistical modeling is incorrect.

37. (A) 1875
The India Meteorological Department was formally established in 1875 by the British colonial administration following a devastating tropical cyclone in Calcutta and subsequent severe droughts. Henry Francis Blanford was appointed as the first Imperial Meteorological Reporter, laying the foundation for systematic weather recording and forecasting across the subcontinent.

38. (C) Mango showers
Pre-monsoon rainfall occurring during late spring across Karnataka and Kerala is locally called Mango showers. These thunderous showers occur due to local convective heating towards the end of April and May, helping prevent premature fruit drop and aiding the early ripening of mangoes prior to the full monsoon onset.

39. (A) Kal Baisakhi
During the pre-monsoon summer month of Baisakh, violent localized thunderstorms accompanied by strong squalls and torrential rain occur in West Bengal and adjoining eastern states. Locally known as Kal Baisakhi, or calamity of Baisakh, these severe convective storms cause destruction to standing crops while offering brief thermal relief.

40. (D) Rainless periods lasting a few days or weeks during the monsoon.
During the active southwest monsoon season, rainfall does not occur continuously every day. A break in monsoon refers to temporary rainless spells lasting several days or weeks, occurring when the low-pressure monsoon trough shifts position toward the Himalayan foothills or when tropical depressions fail to form over the Bay of Bengal.

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41. (B) Arakan Hills
As the Bay of Bengal branch of the southwest monsoon advances northward towards Myanmar and Bangladesh, it encounters the north-south oriented Arakan Yoma mountain range. This prominent topographical barrier physically blocks and deflects the moisture-laden winds westward, directing them along the Indo-Gangetic plains across northern India.

42. (C) High-pressure zone in the south Indian Ocean
The Mascarene High is a prominent semi-permanent high-pressure cell situated over the southern Indian Ocean near the Mascarene Islands. The pressure intensity and spatial position of this oceanic high-pressure zone drive cross-equatorial trade winds, directly influencing the speed, moisture content, and overall strength of the southwest Indian monsoon.

43. (C) 20 to 25 degrees North latitude
During the northern hemisphere summer, overhead solar radiation heats the landmass of northern India, shifting the global thermal equator northward. By July, this zone of maximum surface heating and low pressure settles over twenty to twenty-five degrees north latitude, forming the seasonal monsoon trough across the Gangetic plains.

44. (D) All of the above.
Multiple geographic factors render Rajasthan extremely dry during the monsoon. The Aravalli Range aligns parallel to Arabian Sea winds, preventing rain-bearing uplift. Distance from the Bay of Bengal diminishes moisture before winds arrive. Furthermore, intense summer heat lowers relative humidity, preventing atmospheric condensation and cloud formation over the region.

45. (B) II, III and IV only
The Inter Tropical Convergence Zone is an equatorial low-pressure trough, not high pressure, where trade winds meet. During summer, overhead solar heating causes it to shift north over the Ganga plain, creating the monsoon trough that attracts moisture-bearing winds and drives seasonal precipitation across northern India.

46. (B) October Heat
During the transition from the wet southwest monsoon to dry winter conditions, clearing skies cause land temperatures to rise sharply while the soil remains highly saturated. This combination of elevated temperatures and high atmospheric humidity produces uncomfortable, oppressive weather during autumn, a phenomenon widely referred to as October Heat.

47. (A) It blows from land to sea.
The northeast monsoon prevailing during winter blows predominantly from the high-pressure land interior of northern Asia and India toward the lower-pressure oceanic areas. Because these continental wind currents originate and travel over dry landmasses, they carry minimal moisture, resulting in clear skies and dry conditions across most regions.

48. (C) 118 cm
India experiences significant spatial variation in precipitation, ranging from under twelve centimeters in western deserts to over one thousand centimeters in northeastern hills. Taking all meteorological subdivisions into account, the long-term calculated average annual rainfall across the country is approximately one hundred and eighteen centimeters, largely concentrated during summer.

49. (D) It lies in the rain shadow of the Himalayas.
Leh, located in the cold high-altitude desert of Ladakh, receives extremely low annual precipitation under ten centimeters. This severe aridity occurs because the imposing Great Himalayan ranges act as a tall topographical barrier, trapping moisture-bearing monsoon winds on their southern slopes and placing Leh in a dry rain shadow zone.

50. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
During the summer monsoon, Tamil Nadu remains dry due to dual geographical factors. The coastline lies parallel to the Bay of Bengal branch winds, preventing rain-bearing friction and uplift. Additionally, it sits on the eastern leeward side of the Western Ghats, within the rain shadow zone of the Arabian Sea branch.

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51. (B) It appears around Christmas off the South American coast.
Peruvian fishermen originally coined the term El Nino, meaning The Little Boy or Christ Child in Spanish, because this unusual oceanic warm current typically develops off the coast of Peru around Christmas time. The phenomenon brings warm surface waters that replace the cold, nutrient-rich Humboldt current during certain years.

52. (D) Pacific Ocean
The Walker Circulation is a large-scale east-west atmospheric circulation cell driven by pressure and temperature gradients across the tropical Pacific Ocean. Fluctuations in this circulation, known as the Southern Oscillation, directly influence atmospheric pressure patterns, trade wind strength, and moisture movement, severely impacting the strength of Indian monsoon rainfall.

53. (A) Warmer than normal sea surface temperatures in the western Indian Ocean and cooler in the east.
The Indian Ocean Dipole is an ocean-atmosphere phenomenon characterized by surface temperature differences across the tropical Indian Ocean. A positive phase features higher-than-average sea surface temperatures in the western Indian Ocean near East Africa and lower-than-average temperatures in the eastern region near Indonesia, influencing weather systems across continents.

54. (C) It enhances monsoon rainfall, often counteracting El Nino.
A positive Indian Ocean Dipole warms the western Indian Ocean, creating strong atmospheric convection and enhanced evaporation. This moisture supply strengthens the southwest monsoon flow towards India. Consequently, a positive dipole frequently boosts seasonal rainfall across the country, often counteracting the drought-inducing effects typically caused by a concurrent Pacific El Nino.

55. (A) Northwestern India → Central India → Southern Peninsula
The withdrawal of the southwest monsoon follows a sequential pattern opposite to its onset. It commences first in the northwestern state of Rajasthan around early September as land cooling weakens the thermal low. The retreat progresses southward through central India by October, finally departing from the southern peninsula by December.

56. (A) West to Northwest
Tropical cyclones forming over the Bay of Bengal during post-monsoon months are steered primarily by prevailing easterly trade winds. As a result, these severe low-pressure storm systems move in a west to northwest direction, heading directly toward the eastern coast of India before making landfall or occasionally recurving northeastward.

57. (B) WMO / ESCAP Panel
The naming of tropical cyclones in the North Indian Ocean basin is managed by the World Meteorological Organization and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Panel on Tropical Cyclones. Member nations submit pre-selected lists of names, which are assigned sequentially to incoming tropical storms.

58. (C) High vertical wind shear
Rapid tropical cyclone intensification requires high ocean temperatures, abundant low-level moisture, and strong Coriolis rotation to organize vertical cloud structures. Conversely, high vertical wind shear disrupts storm development by tilting and tearing apart the vertical convective core, thereby preventing the storm from building or maintaining a strong organized circulation.

59. (D) Westerly jet stream
Western Disturbances originate as non-tropical cyclonic depressions over the Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean. During winter, the upper-altitude sub-tropical westerly jet stream blows across Eurasia, carrying these low-pressure weather systems eastward across the Middle East toward the Indian subcontinent, bringing vital winter rainfall to northern plains.

60. (A) Mountain snow and plain rain
Western Disturbances passing over northern India encounter varying topographic and thermal conditions. When these moisture-bearing cyclonic systems collide with the high-elevation Himalayan ranges, they cause heavy snowfall across mountain slopes, while simultaneously producing light to moderate rainfall across the adjacent lower elevation northern plains during winter months.

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61. (C) Exceeds 50% of the long period average
The India Meteorological Department classifies meteorological drought based on seasonal rainfall deficiency relative to long-period average values. A drought is categorized as moderate when seasonal rainfall deficiency is between twenty-six and fifty percent, whereas a severe drought is declared when the rainfall deficit exceeds fifty percent of normal precipitation.

62. (B) Western districts
The Desert Development Programme was launched by the central government to minimize environmental degradation, check desertification, and manage drought in hyper-arid regions. In Rajasthan, this program focuses predominantly on western districts like Jaisalmer, Barmer, Bikaner, and Jodhpur, where harsh climatic conditions and low rainfall create fragile desert ecosystems.

63. (A) Bihar
The state of Bihar is severely impacted by recurring catastrophic floods caused by the Kosi River. Originating in the high Himalayas, the Kosi carries massive silt loads onto the flat northern plains of Bihar, forcing frequent course shifts and channel breaching during torrential summer monsoon rains, earning it local notoriety.

64. (C) Historical data and precursor parameters
Statistical forecasting models, such as the Ensemble Multiple Linear Regression system used by weather agencies, rely on historical climatic datasets to establish mathematical relationships. By analyzing long-term relationships between past monsoon behavior and precursor atmospheric or oceanic parameters, the model predicts forthcoming seasonal rainfall performance across regions.

65. (D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Pre-monsoon localized rainfall events bear distinct names across Indian states. Cherry Blossom showers assist coffee plantations in Karnataka, while Kal Baisakhi brings heavy squalls to West Bengal. Mango showers facilitate fruit development in Kerala, and Bardoli Chheerha refers to thunderstorm activity occurring in the northeastern state of Assam.

66. (C) To advance monsoon predictions via dynamic modeling.
The National Monsoon Mission was established by the Ministry of Earth Sciences to build an advanced, state-of-the-art dynamical prediction system. By replacing traditional statistical methods with coupled ocean-atmosphere dynamic climate models, the initiative aims to significantly improve short, medium, and seasonal monsoon forecasting accuracy for agriculture and planning.

67. (B) Ministry of Earth Sciences
The India Meteorological Department is the primary national agency for weather tracking, climate observation, and natural disaster warnings. Functioning under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, it conducts extensive atmospheric research, monitors seismic activity, and operates weather radar networks, satellite observation systems, and coastal cyclone warning centers across the nation.

68. (D) With the onset of the Southwest monsoon
The Kharif cropping season in India is directly linked to the summer monsoon pattern. Sowing begins during May and June with the arrival of the southwest monsoon winds, which provide essential moisture for seed germination. Major crops like rice, maize, cotton, and groundnut are cultivated and harvested in autumn.

69. (A) Siberian High
During the northern hemisphere winter, intense atmospheric cooling over the vast Asian landmass creates a powerful, semi-permanent high-pressure cell known as the Siberian High. This intense pressure system drives cold, dry continental air currents southward and westward, establishing the prevailing offshore winter monsoon winds across the Indian subcontinent.

70. (A) I and II only
The northeast monsoon operates during winter when high pressure over northern landmasses causes dry winds to blow from land toward the sea across most of India. However, after picking up moisture over the Bay of Bengal, these winds hit Tamil Nadu, causing rain, making statement three incorrect as northern plains remain dry.

71. (A) As
In Koeppen's climate classification, the code As designates a tropical climate with dry summers

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and wet winters. The Coromandel Coast of Tamil Nadu exhibits this climate, as it remains dry during the southwest summer monsoon but receives the majority of its annual precipitation from retreating northeast winds in winter.

72. (D) They cause widespread rain over the northwestern plains.
The southwest monsoon advances across India in two main branches from the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Moving inland around late June, these two moisture-laden wind currents converge over the northwestern plains of the Ganga, triggering widespread rainfall and thunder activity across Punjab, Haryana, and western Uttar Pradesh.

73. (B) Himachal Pradesh
Himachal Pradesh displays a bi-modal precipitation distribution throughout the year. It receives substantial rainfall during the summer southwest monsoon from July to September, and experiences additional significant precipitation during winter months from Western Disturbances coming from the Mediterranean, which bring essential rain to valleys and heavy snow to mountains.

74. (C) Westerly jet stream
During winter, the sub-tropical westerly jet stream splits into two branches due to the Tibetan Plateau, with its southern branch positioned over northern India. This upper-level wind stream acts as an atmospheric barrier, maintaining high pressure and stable dry conditions until summer heating forces it to retreat north of the Himalayas.

75. (A) I, II, III, IV
Average annual rainfall increases significantly from west to east across India. Jodhpur in arid Rajasthan receives under forty centimeters, while Delhi gets around sixty-five centimeters. Moving further east, Kolkata receives nearly one hundred and fifty centimeters, and Shillong in the northeastern hills receives well over two hundred centimeters of precipitation annually.

76. (A) Tahiti and Darwin
The Southern Oscillation Index measures monthly sea-level pressure differences between Tahiti in the central Pacific and Darwin in northern Australia. Negative index values signify high pressure at Darwin and low pressure at Tahiti, indicating El Nino conditions, which frequently correlate with suppressed or deficient monsoon rainfall across the Indian subcontinent.

77. (B) Soil type uniformity
Unequal rainfall distribution across India is driven by atmospheric and geographical dynamics, including relief features, proximity to oceans, and prevailing seasonal wind direction. Soil type uniformities do not influence wind movement or cloud condensation, making soil characteristics irrelevant to explaining macro-level variations in regional precipitation patterns across the country.

78. (B) Higher wind shear and cooler water in the Arabian Sea.
Tropical cyclone development is less frequent in the Arabian Sea than the Bay of Bengal due to oceanographic and atmospheric factors. The Arabian Sea experiences lower sea surface temperatures and stronger vertical wind shear, which disrupt vertical cloud development and hinder the intensification of low-pressure cyclonic storms.

79. (A) Alternating wet and dry spells
The pulsating nature of the Indian monsoon refers to its inherent variability characterized by alternating wet and dry spells during the summer season. Influenced by fluctuations in low-pressure troughs, tropical depressions, and regional wind intensity, monsoon rainfall occurs in distinct surges or active pulses interrupted by temporary dry breaks.

80. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
The Arabian Sea branch of the southwest monsoon is significantly more powerful than the Bay of Bengal branch. This strength difference arises because the Arabian Sea is much larger in area, and its entire wind current advances directly toward the Indian landmass, carrying a vast quantity of evaporation-derived atmospheric moisture.

81. (D) Monsoon Mission Coupled Forecasting System
The MMCFS model stands for Monsoon Mission Coupled Forecasting System. Developed under the National Monsoon Mission by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, this dynamic

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ocean-atmosphere coupled climate model is used by the India Meteorological Department to generate high-resolution seasonal and extended-range weather and monsoon predictions.

82. (C) 45-50%
Despite extensive expansion of irrigation infrastructure since independence, approximately forty-five to fifty percent of India's net sown agricultural area lacks artificial irrigation coverage. These rain-fed farmlands depend entirely on seasonal monsoon precipitation, leaving crop productivity and rural livelihoods highly vulnerable to spatial and temporal variations in rainfall.

83. (B) El Nino Southern Oscillation
The acronym ENSO stands for El Nino Southern Oscillation. It represents a major periodic climate phenomenon involving coupled ocean-atmosphere interactions across the tropical Pacific Ocean. ENSO encompasses warm El Nino and cool La Nina ocean phases alongside atmospheric pressure fluctuations, profoundly impacting global weather and the Indian monsoon.

84. (D) Clear skies and calm winds
Ground frost formation during winter nights in northwestern India requires rapid nocturnal radiational cooling of the land surface. Clear, cloudless skies allow terrestrial heat to escape freely into the atmosphere, while calm winds prevent air mixing, allowing ground surface temperatures to drop below freezing and condensing atmospheric moisture into frost.

85. (B) I, II and III only
India's climate is shaped by monsoonal wind patterns, regional topography, and protective northern mountains. Temperature and precipitation vary widely across geographical zones. However, rainfall is not distributed evenly throughout all twelve months; instead, over eighty percent of annual precipitation is concentrated during the summer monsoon season from June to September.

86. (C) The western coast and northeastern India
The highest average annual rainfall in India occurs along the western coast and in northeastern states. Moisture-laden southwest monsoon winds produce intense orographic precipitation exceeding two hundred centimeters annually along the windward slopes of the Western Ghats and the funnel-shaped hilly topography of Meghalaya and Assam.

87. (A) The burst of the monsoon
The sudden arrival of moisture-laden monsoon winds over the southern tip of India in early June is called the burst of the monsoon. Characterized by a sharp, dramatic transition from dry weather to heavy downpours accompanied by violent thunder and lightning, it marks the formal beginning of the rainy season.

88. (D) Warming in central Pacific flanked by cooler waters.
El Nino Modoki is a distinct ocean-atmosphere phenomenon characterized by anomalous warm ocean surface temperatures in the central equatorial Pacific Ocean, flanked by cooler waters in both the eastern and western Pacific regions. This atmospheric heating pattern creates unique global weather impacts that differ from conventional eastern Pacific El Nino events.

89. (B) The Western Ghats
The Western Ghats form a continuous mountain chain running parallel to the western coast of India. When moisture-laden southwest monsoon winds blow in from the Arabian Sea, this elevated topographic barrier forces the air upward, inducing atmospheric cooling, cloud condensation, and heavy orographic rainfall along the narrow coastal plain.

90. (C) Kerala
The southern state of Kerala acts as the gateway for the southwest monsoon in India. Around the first of June every year, the moisture-laden Arabian Sea branch of the monsoon reaches the Kerala coast, bringing the season's first heavy rain and thunder, before advancing northward across the subcontinent.

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CHAPTER 03

Rivers, Dams, Lakes and Seas of India

1. Which of the following is a primary characteristic that distinguishes Himalayan rivers from Peninsular rivers in India?
(A) Himalayan rivers are largely seasonal, while Peninsular rivers are perennial.
(B) Himalayan rivers are fed by both snowmelt and rainfall, making them perennial.
(C) Himalayan rivers have reached their base level of erosion.
(D) Himalayan rivers typically flow through shallow, broad valleys.

2. Which of the following statements regarding the drainage patterns of Peninsular rivers is incorrect?
(A) They generally have fixed courses and do not frequently change their paths.
(B) They are characterized by the absence of significant meanders.
(C) Their drainage basins are relatively smaller compared to the Himalayan rivers.
(D) They exhibit a highly youthful stage of river profile with deep V-shaped valleys.

3. The river Ganga formally acquires its name after the confluence of which two headstreams at Devprayag?
(A) Bhagirathi and Alaknanda
(B) Alaknanda and Mandakini
(C) Bhagirathi and Pindar
(D) Alaknanda and Dhauliganga

4. Which of the following is a right-bank tributary of the Ganga?
(A) Gomti
(B) Gandak
(C) Son
(D) Kosi

5. Identify the correct pair representing the confluence of rivers in the Ganga system.
(A) Rudraprayag - Alaknanda and Mandakini
(B) Karnaprayag - Alaknanda and Bhagirathi
(C) Nandprayag - Alaknanda and Pindar
(D) Vishnuprayag - Alaknanda and Mandakini

6. Which of the following states is not a part of the Ganga river basin?
(A) Madhya Pradesh
(B) Rajasthan
(C) Jharkhand
(D) Punjab

7. The Farakka Barrage was primarily constructed to serve which of the following purposes?
(A) To generate large-scale hydroelectric power for West Bengal and Bangladesh
(B) To divert water into the Hooghly river to maintain Kolkata port navigability
(C) To supply extensive irrigation water across drought-prone regions of Bihar
(D) To regulate heavy seasonal flood waters flowing into downstream Bangladesh

8. The Brahmaputra river is known by which of the following names in Tibet before it enters India?
(A) Siang
(B) Dihang
(C) Yarlung Tsangpo
(D) Jamuna

9. Which of the following tributaries of the Brahmaputra originates in Tibet and flows through Sikkim before joining the main river in Bangladesh?
(A) Subansiri
(B) Kameng
(C) Manas
(D) Teesta

10. Consider the following statements regarding the Brahmaputra River system:
I. It originates from the Chemayungdung glacier near Lake Mansarovar.
II. It enters India through the state of Arunachal Pradesh under the name Dihang.
III. The Majuli island, a large riverine island, is formed by it in Assam.
IV. It merges with the Ganga in Bangladesh and takes the name Padma before falling into the Bay of Bengal.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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(A) I, II and III
(B) II, III and IV
(C) I, III and IV
(D) I, II, III and IV

11. Which among the following rivers is an exception and does not belong to the Brahmaputra river system?
(A) Dhansiri
(B) Tons
(C) Lohit
(D) Sankosh

12. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The Peninsular rivers of India are generally non-perennial in nature.
Reason (R): Peninsular rivers depend entirely on monsoonal rainfall for their water supply and do not have snow-fed origins.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

13. According to the Indus Water Treaty of 1960 between India and Pakistan, India has been given exclusive rights over the waters of which of the following groups of rivers?
(A) Ravi, Beas, and Satluj
(B) Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab
(C) Jhelum, Ravi, and Satluj
(D) Chenab, Beas, and Indus

14. Which tributary of the Indus river system originates from a spring at Verinag situated at the foot of the Pir Panjal in the Kashmir Valley?
(A) Chenab
(B) Ravi
(C) Jhelum
(D) Beas

15. Consider the following statements regarding the Indus River system:
I. The Chenab river is formed by two streams, the Chandra and the Bhaga.
II. The Beas river originates near the Rohtang Pass and flows entirely within India.
III. The Satluj river originates from the Rakas Lake in Tibet.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Only I and II
(B) Only II and III
(C) Only I and III
(D) I, II and III

16. The Satluj river enters India through which of the following mountain passes?
(A) Nathu La
(B) Lipulekh
(C) Shipki La
(D) Zoji La

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17. The Godavari river originates from which of the following locations?
(A) Mahabaleshwar in Satara district, Maharashtra
(B) Trimbakeshwar in Nashik district, Maharashtra
(C) Amarkantak plateau in Anuppur, Madhya Pradesh
(D) Sihawa hill in Raipur district, Chhattisgarh

18. Which of the following rivers is not a tributary of the Godavari?
(A) Pranhita
(B) Indravati
(C) Manjira
(D) Hemavati

19. The Godavari river is often referred to as 'Dakshin Ganga' primarily because of:
(A) Its large size, extent, and regional significance
(B) Its continuous large volume of water and perennial flow
(C) Its origin in the snow-capped peaks of Western Ghats
(D) Its direct convergence with Ganga in its lower course

20. The Godavari river drains into the Bay of Bengal, forming a large delta. In which state does its primary deltaic formation begin?
(A) Maharashtra
(B) Telangana
(C) Andhra Pradesh
(D) Odisha

21. Which is the second largest east-flowing Peninsular river in India after the Godavari?
(A) Krishna
(B) Mahanadi
(C) Kaveri
(D) Pennar

22. Match List I with List II and select the correct option:
List I: (River)
P. Godavari
Q. Krishna
R. Kaveri
S. Narmada
List II: (Place of Origin)
1. Amarkantak
2. Talakaveri
3. Mahabaleshwar
4. Trimbakeshwar
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4

23. The Tungabhadra river is a major tributary of which river system?
(A) Godavari
(B) Krishna
(C) Kaveri
(D) Mahanadi

24. Identify the odd one out from the following list of tributaries based on the river system they belong to.
(A) Bhima
(B) Musi
(C) Wainganga
(D) Ghataprabha

25. The Kaveri river carries a relatively higher volume of water throughout the year compared to other peninsular rivers. What is the primary geographical reason for this?
(A) It is fed by a large underground aquifer in the Deccan plateau.
(B) It receives significant glacial meltwater from the Nilgiri hills.
(C) It has a highly dendritic drainage pattern that prevents water loss.
(D) It receives rainfall from both the southwest and northeast monsoons.

26. The famous Sivasamudram waterfalls are located on which of the following rivers?
(A) Kaveri
(B) Godavari
(C) Krishna
(D) Sharavati

27. The Kaveri river basin spans across which of the following groups of Indian states/Union Territories?
(A) Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh
(B) Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Puducherry
(C) Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu
(D) Telangana, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu

28. Choose the correct sequence of the following East-flowing Peninsular rivers when arranged from North to South:
(A) Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri
(B) Godavari, Mahanadi, Kaveri, Krishna
(C) Mahanadi, Krishna, Godavari, Kaveri
(D) Krishna, Godavari, Mahanadi, Kaveri

29. The Narmada river flows westward into the Arabian Sea because:
(A) It flows through a rift valley between Vindhya and Satpura ranges.
(B) The general regional slope of the Peninsular plateau is tilted towards the west.
(C) It follows a well-defined antecedent drainage pattern across the region.
(D) The Coriolis force significantly deflects its river course towards the west.

30. Consider the following statements regarding the Narmada River:
I. It originates from the Amarkantak plateau in Madhya Pradesh.
II. It flows through a rift valley.
III. It forms the famous Dhuandhar waterfalls near Jabalpur.
IV. It forms a large and expansive delta before joining the Arabian Sea.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and IV
(B) II, III and IV
(C) I, II and III
(D) I, III and IV

31. Which of the following is not a west-flowing river of the Indian Peninsula?
(A) Tapi
(B) Mahi
(C) Sabarmati
(D) Subarnarekha

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32. The Tapi river originates from which of the following geographical features?
(A) Mahadeo hills in the Seoni district of Madhya Pradesh
(B) Sihawa mountains in the Dhamtari district of Chhattisgarh
(C) Multai in Betul district, Madhya Pradesh
(D) Aravalli ranges near Mount Abu in southern Rajasthan

33. Which of the following statements best describes the Tapi river?
(A) It flows parallel to the Narmada but in a longer rift valley.
(B) Its basin covers parts of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat.
(C) It is the longest west-flowing river in the Peninsular region.
(D) It originates in the Western Ghats and flows into the Gulf of Mannar.

34. The Bhakra Nangal Dam, one of the largest multi-purpose river valley projects in India, is built across which river?
(A) Beas
(B) Ravi
(C) Chenab
(D) Satluj

35. Consider the following statements regarding the Bhakra Nangal project:
I. It is a joint venture of Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan.
II. The reservoir created by the Bhakra dam is known as Gobind Sagar.
III. It is primarily built to utilize the waters of the Jhelum river.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Only I and II
(B) Only II and III
(C) Only I and III
(D) I, II and III

36. The Hirakud Dam, noted for being one of the longest earthen dams in the world, is built on which river?
(A) Damodar
(B) Godavari
(C) Mahanadi
(D) Brahmani

37. The Hirakud Dam project is located in which of the following states?
(A) Odisha
(B) Chhattisgarh
(C) Jharkhand
(D) West Bengal

38. Arrange the following multi-purpose river valley projects in their geographical order from North to South in India:
1. Bhakra Nangal
2. Tehri Dam
3. Hirakud Dam
4. Nagarjuna Sagar Dam
(A) 2-1-3-4
(B) 1-2-3-4
(C) 1-3-2-4
(D) 2-3-1-4

39. The Sardar Sarovar Dam is a major hydroelectric and irrigation project built on which of the following rivers?
(A) Tapi
(B) Narmada
(C) Mahi
(D) Sabarmati

40. Which of the following states is not a beneficiary of the Sardar Sarovar Dam project?
(A) Gujarat
(B) Rajasthan
(C) Chhattisgarh
(D) Madhya Pradesh

41. The Tehri Dam, the highest dam in India, is located at the confluence of which two rivers?
(A) Alaknanda and Mandakini
(B) Bhagirathi and Alaknanda
(C) Yamuna and Tons
(D) Bhagirathi and Bhilangana

42. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The construction of the Tehri Dam has faced significant environmental and safety protests.
Reason (R): The Tehri Dam is located in a highly active seismic zone in the Himalayas, raising concerns about potential earthquake-induced failures.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

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43. In which state is the Tehri Dam located?
(A) Himachal Pradesh
(B) Uttarakhand
(C) Uttar Pradesh
(D) Jammu and Kashmir

44. The Nagarjuna Sagar Dam is constructed across which river?
(A) Godavari
(B) Krishna
(C) Pennar
(D) Kaveri

45. The Nagarjuna Sagar multi-purpose project is located on the border of which two states?
(A) Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
(B) Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
(C) Maharashtra and Telangana
(D) Karnataka and Telangana

46. In the context of river planning, what is the fundamental difference between a river basin and a watershed?
(A) A river basin applies exclusively to groundwater systems, whereas a watershed applies only to surface water flows.
(B) A river basin is an artificially constructed canal network, whereas a watershed is a purely natural geographical feature.
(C) A river basin drains a major river system, while a watershed drains a smaller stream or tributary.
(D) A river basin contains only freshwater systems, whereas a watershed contains both fresh and highly saline water bodies.

47. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of a 'multi-purpose river valley project'?
(A) A structural project that links two distinct river basins primarily to prevent regional flooding.
(B) A high-capacity dam project built exclusively to generate hydroelectricity for industrial estates.
(C) A infrastructure project meant solely for developing long-distance navigation of inland waterways.
(D) A project designed to serve multiple aims like irrigation, power, and flood control.

48. Match List I with List II and select the correct option:
List I: (Dam Project)
P. Bhakra Nangal
Q. Hirakud
R. Sardar Sarovar
S. Tehri
List II: (Associated River)
1. Narmada
2. Bhagirathi
3. Satluj
4. Mahanadi
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

49. Wular Lake, one of the largest freshwater lakes in Asia, was formed primarily due to:
(A) Volcanic activity
(B) Tectonic activity
(C) Glacial erosion
(D) Meandering of a river

50. Consider the following statements regarding major Indian lakes:
I. Wular lake in Jammu and Kashmir is fed by the Jhelum river.
II. Chilika lake is the largest coastal lagoon in India.
III. Dal lake is located in the state of Himachal Pradesh.
IV. Pulicat lake is situated on the Coromandel coast.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III
(B) I, II and IV
(C) II, III and IV
(D) I, III and IV

51. Dal Lake is renowned for its floating gardens which yield produce like tomatoes and cucumbers. What are these floating gardens locally known as?
(A) Rad
(B) Phumdis
(C) Kayals
(D) Beels

52. Chilika Lake is situated at the mouth of which river system on the eastern coast of India?
(A) Godavari
(B) Krishna
(C) Mahanadi
(D) Brahmani

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53. Which of the following rivers directly drain into the Chilika Lake?
(A) Daya and Bhargavi
(B) Subarnarekha and Baitarani
(C) Vamsadhara and Nagavali
(D) Rushikulya and Pranhita

54. Pulicat Lake, the second largest brackish water lake in India, is located on the border of which two states?
(A) Odisha and Andhra Pradesh
(B) Tamil Nadu and Kerala
(C) Karnataka and Kerala
(D) Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu

55. Consider the following statements regarding Pulicat Lake:
I. It is separated from the Bay of Bengal by the barrier island of Sriharikota.
II. It is a major habitat for migratory birds, including flamingos.
III. It is located entirely within the political boundaries of Andhra Pradesh.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Only I and II
(B) Only II and III
(C) Only I and III
(D) I, II and III

56. The first successful initiative under the National Perspective Plan for interlinking of rivers in India is the:
(A) Godavari-Krishna link
(B) Par-Tapi-Narmada link
(C) Ken-Betwa link
(D) Kosi-Mechi link

57. Which of the following is not considered a primary objective of the Interlinking of Rivers project in India?
(A) Transferring water from water-surplus basins to water-deficit basins
(B) Enhancing inland water transport and navigation capabilities across regions
(C) Increasing regional hydroelectric power generation capacity significantly
(D) Converting perennial rivers into seasonal rivers

58. Choose the correct sequence of the following major ports on the Western Coast of India when arranged from North to South:
(A) Kandla, Mumbai, New Mangalore, Kochi
(B) Mumbai, Kandla, Kochi, New Mangalore
(C) Kandla, New Mangalore, Mumbai, Kochi
(D) Mumbai, Kochi, Kandla, New Mangalore

59. The coastal plain located between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea is generally divided into three sections. The southern part is known as the:
(A) Konkan Coast
(B) Malabar Coast
(C) Coromandel Coast
(D) Kannad Plain

60. The famous 'Kayals' (backwaters), which are used for fishing and inland navigation, are a characteristic feature of which coast?
(A) Konkan Coast
(B) Malabar Coast
(C) Kathiawar Coast
(D) Utkal Coast

61. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The western coastline of India is an example of an emergent coast.
Statement II: The western coastline possesses broad continental shelves and extensive deltas compared to the eastern coast.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

62. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The rivers flowing into the Arabian Sea form estuaries rather than deltas.
Reason (R): These rivers flow over steep gradients and carry very low amounts of sediment, preventing delta formation at their mouths.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

63. The coast along the Bay of Bengal, spanning mainly across Tamil Nadu and parts of Andhra Pradesh, is known as the:

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(A) Malabar Coast
(B) Konkan Coast
(C) Northern Circars
(D) Coromandel Coast

64. Which geographical phenomenon causes the Coromandel Coast to receive a significant portion of its annual rainfall during the winter months?
(A) Southwest Monsoon
(B) Tropical Cyclones originating in the Arabian Sea
(C) Northeast (Retreating) Monsoon
(D) Western Disturbances

65. Which of the following is the deepest landlocked and protected port on the eastern coast of India?
(A) Chennai
(B) Visakhapatnam
(C) Paradip
(D) Ennore

66. Jawaharlal Nehru Port (also known as Nhava Sheva) was constructed primarily to:
(A) Serve as the primary naval operation base for the Indian Navy.
(B) Handle the exclusive bulk export of iron ore extracted from Goa.
(C) Replace Kandla port following the partition of western India.
(D) Decongest Mumbai Port and serve as a hub port.

67. Identify the odd one out among the following ports based on their location on the Indian coastline.
(A) Mormugao
(B) Haldia
(C) Paradip
(D) Tuticorin

68. Match List I with List II and select the correct option:
List I: (Major Port)
P. Paradip
Q. Mormugao
R. New Mangalore
S. Ennore
List II: (State)
1. Karnataka
2. Tamil Nadu
3. Odisha
4. Goa
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

69. Which of the following ports is an exception, being a riverine port rather than a sea port?
(A) Kolkata
(B) Chennai
(C) Kochi
(D) Visakhapatnam

70. Consider the following statements regarding the Ganga Action Plan (GAP):
I. The Ganga Action Plan Phase-I was launched in the year 1986.
II. Its main objective was to improve water quality by interception, diversion, and treatment of domestic sewage.
III. Phase-I of GAP was initially introduced as a 100% centrally sponsored scheme.
IV. The plan successfully eliminated all forms of industrial pollution in the Ganga within ten years.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III
(B) II, III and IV
(C) I, III and IV
(D) I, II, III and IV

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71. The 'Namami Gange' Programme, an integrated conservation mission to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution and conservation of the National River Ganga, was launched by the Union Government in which year?
(A) 2010
(B) 2012
(C) 2014
(D) 2016

72. National Waterway 1 (NW-1) in India covers which of the following river stretches?
(A) The main Brahmaputra river stretch extending from Sadiya to Dhubri
(B) The West Coast Canal stretch extending from Kollam to Kottapuram
(C) Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly system from Prayagraj to Haldia
(D) The Godavari and Krishna rivers stretch from Kakinada to Puducherry

73. National Waterway 2 (NW-2), declared for inland water transport, is situated on which of the following rivers?
(A) Mahanadi

(B) Barak
(C) Godavari
(D) Brahmaputra

74. Despite possessing a vast network of rivers, inland water transport accounts for a very small share of freight movement in India. Which of the following is a major natural constraint for inland navigation in Peninsular rivers?
(A) The rivers are seasonal and face sharp water level fluctuations.
(B) The rivers carry heavy amounts of silt, making continuous dredging impossible.
(C) The rivers flow through dense forest areas where navigation is strictly restricted.
(D) The rivers are heavily polluted with industrial effluents, decaying vessels rapidly.

75. Consider the following statements regarding Inland Waterways of India:
I. NW-1 is located on the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system.
II. NW-2 is located on the Brahmaputra river.
III. NW-3 is located along the Godavari river in Andhra Pradesh.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Only I and II
(B) Only II and III
(C) Only I and III
(D) I, II and III

76. Which of the following is the longest river in India in terms of length flowing entirely within the Indian territory?
(A) Brahmaputra
(B) Ganga
(C) Indus
(D) Godavari

77. Which of the following statements regarding the comparative overview of Indian rivers is incorrect?
(A) The Mahanadi originates in Western Ghats and flows to Bay of Bengal.
(B) The Godavari river system possesses the largest drainage basin among Peninsular rivers.
(C) The Narmada river is recognized as the longest west-flowing river in Peninsular India.
(D) The Brahmaputra river carries a significantly larger volume of water than the Ganga river.

78. Which of the following rivers crosses the Tropic of Cancer twice during its course?
(A) Narmada
(B) Tapi
(C) Mahi
(D) Sabarmati

79. The Luni river, which flows through the Thar desert in Rajasthan, eventually drains into:
(A) The Arabian Sea via the Gulf of Khambhat
(B) The Sabarmati river
(C) The Sambhar salt lake
(D) The Rann of Kachchh

80. The Himalayan rivers are characterized by features like gorges, V-shaped valleys, and rapids in their mountainous courses. These features are indicative of which stage of river development?
(A) Youthful stage
(B) Mature stage
(C) Old stage
(D) Rejuvenated stage

81. Which of the following best describes the concept of a 'river basin'?
(A) The natural physical land depression in which a large lake is formed.
(B) The land area drained by a river and its tributaries.
(C) The specific area of land subject to severe periodic flooding by a river.
(D) The deep underground aquifer network that feeds a perennial river system.

82. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) level in the Yamuna river is exceptionally high near Delhi.
Reason (R): Large amounts of untreated domestic sewage and industrial effluents are discharged into the river as it flows through the city.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

83. The Subansiri, Kameng, Dhansiri, and Manas are significant tributaries belonging to which river basin?
(A) Brahmaputra

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(B) Ganga
(C) Godavari
(D) Indus

84. Which of the following rivers does not originate in the state of Himachal Pradesh?
(A) Beas
(B) Ravi
(C) Jhelum
(D) Chenab

85. Arrange the following rivers of India in decreasing order of their total length:
1. Ganga
2. Godavari
3. Krishna
4. Narmada
(A) 1-2-3-4
(B) 1-3-2-4
(C) 2-1-3-4
(D) 1-2-4-3

86. Which of the following statements concerning the Godavari river basin is correct?
(A) It receives monsoon rainfall almost exclusively from the retreating northeast monsoon.
(B) It covers the largest river basin area among all Indian rivers, exceeding that of the Ganga.
(C) It is an antecedent river that cuts directly through the Eastern Ghats forming deep gorges.
(D) It spans Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha.

87. The Almatti Dam, a major hydroelectric project, is built across which of the following rivers?
(A) Godavari
(B) Krishna
(C) Kaveri
(D) Tungabhadra

88. Match List I with List II and select the correct option:
List I: (Lake)
P. Wular Lake
Q. Chilika Lake
R. Pulicat Lake
S. Lonar Lake
List II: (Type/Formation)
1. Coastal Lagoon (Brackish)
2. Tectonic Freshwater
3. Crater/Meteorite
4. Barrier Lagoon
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

89. Both Narmada and Tapi rivers share a unique geographical characteristic compared to most Peninsular rivers. Which of the following is it?
(A) They both form large, fertile deltas at their mouths.
(B) They both originate from the Western Ghats.
(C) They both carry a higher amount of suspended silt than the Ganga.
(D) They both flow through structural trough or rift valleys.

90. The term 'Continental Shelf' is crucial for fishing and petroleum extraction. On the Indian coastline, which side generally possesses a wider continental shelf?
(A) The Western Coast
(B) The Eastern Coast
(C) The Coromandel Coast exclusively
(D) Both coasts have equally wide continental shelves

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ANSWERS

1. (B) Himalayan rivers are fed by both snowmelt and rainfall, making them perennial.
Himalayan rivers originate in high-altitude glaciated mountain ranges, receiving continuous water supply from melting glaciers during dry summer months and monsoonal rainfall during wet seasons. This dual hydrological sourcing ensures constant perennial flow throughout the entire year, whereas peninsular rivers depend almost exclusively on seasonal rainfall, leading to reduced volume or complete drying during dry periods.

2. (D) They exhibit a highly youthful stage of river profile with deep V-shaped valleys.
Peninsular rivers represent mature hydrological systems that have evolved over geological epochs, having largely graded their channels and reached their base level of erosion. Consequently, they flow through broad, shallow valleys with gentle gradients rather than exhibiting a youthful profile characterized by steep, deep V-shaped valleys, violent rapids, or sharp mountain gorges typical of geologically younger Himalayan river channels.

3. (A) Bhagirathi and Alaknanda
The river system officially assumes the name Ganga at Devprayag, located in Uttarakhand, where two major Himalayan headstreams converge. The Bhagirathi, originating from the Gaumukh glacier, joins the Alaknanda, which flows down from the Satopanth glacier. Their confluence marks the formal commencement of the main trunk stream flowing down into the Indo-Gangetic plains at Haridwar.

4. (C) Son
The Son river originates on the Amarkantak plateau in Madhya Pradesh and flows north-eastwards across southern Bihar before joining the main channel on its south side, functioning as a primary right-bank tributary. Conversely, northern tributaries like Gomti, Gandak, and Kosi originate in the northern high plains or Himalayas and join the main river along its left bank.

5. (A) Rudraprayag - Alaknanda and Mandakini
In the sacred Panch Prayag system of the Garhwal Himalayas, Rudraprayag marks the precise geographic confluence where the Mandakini river joins the Alaknanda river. Other notable prayags along the Alaknanda include Vishnuprayag with Dhauliganga, Nandprayag with Nandakini, Karnaprayag with Pindar, and Devprayag with Bhagirathi, each forming an essential hydrological junction within the upper Garhwal drainage network.

6. (D) Punjab
The expansive Ganga drainage basin encompasses eleven Indian states and union territories across northern and central India, including Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Delhi. Punjab lies entirely within the Indus river basin network, drained primarily by tributaries like Satluj, Beas, and Ravi, placing it completely outside Ganga's catchment boundaries.

7. (B) To divert water into the Hooghly river to maintain Kolkata port navigability
The Farakka Barrage was constructed near the border of West Bengal to divert flushing flows into the Hooghly branch. Heavy siltation in the tidal reaches of the lower river threatened to choke Kolkata Port by reducing water depth. Controlled diversion maintains sufficient flushing currents, removing silt deposits and ensuring navigable navigation channels for commercial maritime traffic entering Kolkata Port.

8. (C) Yarlung Tsangpo
Prior to carving its deep gorge through the Eastern Himalayas to enter India, the trans-boundary river traverses long stretches across southern Tibet, where it is locally called the Yarlung Tsangpo. Upon crossing the Indian frontier near Namcha Barwa into Arunachal Pradesh, it becomes known as the Siang or Dihang before entering Assam to be called the Brahmaputra.

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9. (D) Teesta
Originating from Pauhunri glacier near Cholamu Lake in Sikkim, the Teesta river cuts through the Eastern Himalayas, traversing Sikkim and West Bengal before entering Bangladesh. Historically a tributary of the Ganga, it shifted its course during historic flood events in 1787 to become a major right-bank tributary of the Brahmaputra, joining it near Fulchhari within Bangladesh territory.

10. (D) I, II, III and IV
The Brahmaputra originates at the Chemayungdung glacier near Lake Mansarovar in Tibet. It enters Arunachal Pradesh under the local name Dihang, flows through Assam creating Majuli—one of the largest inhabited riverine islands—and enters Bangladesh. There, after merging with the Ganga, the combined downstream flow is known as the Padma before discharging into the Bay of Bengal.

11. (B) Tons
The Tons river originates in the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand and serves as the primary right-bank tributary of the Yamuna, making it an integral constituent of the Ganga river system. In contrast, Dhansiri, Lohit, and Sankosh are well-documented tributaries that empty directly into the Brahmaputra river network across northeastern India and neighboring Bhutan territories.

12. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Peninsular rivers originate primarily in Peninsular mountain ranges such as the Western Ghats or central highlands, which lack permanent snow cover or glacial systems. Consequently, these rivers rely exclusively on seasonal rainfall received during monsoon months. During dry winter and summer seasons, their discharge drops dramatically, directly causing their non-perennial, seasonal nature across the Peninsular region.

13. (A) Ravi, Beas, and Satluj
Under the terms of the Indus Water Treaty signed in 1960 mediated by the World Bank, the waters of the Indus river system were divided between India and Pakistan. India received unrestricted and exclusive rights to utilize the waters of the eastern rivers—Ravi, Beas, and Satluj—while Pakistan was allocated the western rivers—Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab.

14. (C) Jhelum
The Jhelum river originates from a deep subterranean spring located at Verinag, situated at the base of the Pir Panjal range in the south-eastern section of the Kashmir Valley. It flows north-westward through Lake Wular before carving a steep gorge through the mountains to cross into Pakistan, serving as an important tributary of the Indus.

15. (D) I, II and III
The Chenab is formed by the confluence of the Chandra and Bhaga rivers at Tandi in Himachal Pradesh. The Beas originates near Rohtang Pass and flows entirely within Indian territory before joining the Satluj at Harike. Meanwhile, the Satluj originates from Rakas Lake near Mansarovar in Tibet, making all three stated geographical descriptions accurate.

16. (C) Shipki La
The Satluj river originates from Rakas Lake near Mansarovar in Tibet, where it is known as Langqen Zangbo. It traverses westward across the Himalayan ranges and enters Indian territory through the high mountain pass of Shipki La, situated in the Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh, before descending into the Punjab plains near Bhakra.

17. (B) Trimbakeshwar in Nashik district, Maharashtra
The Godavari river, the longest Peninsular river in India, originates on the slopes of the Western Ghats at Trimbakeshwar, located in the Nashik district of Maharashtra. From its origin point, it flows eastward across the Deccan Plateau, traversing Maharashtra, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, and Andhra Pradesh before eventually discharging its flow into the Bay of Bengal.

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18. (D) Hemavati
Hemavati is a primary left-bank tributary of the Kaveri river system, originating in the Chikkamagaluru district of Karnataka. In contrast, Pranhita, Indravati, and Manjira are major tributaries belonging to the Godavari river basin. Pranhita and Indravati join Godavari from its left bank, while Manjira serves as a prominent right-bank tributary flowing through Telangana.

19. (A) Its large size, extent, and regional significance
The Godavari is designated as 'Dakshin Ganga' (Ganga of the South) because of its extensive catchment area, immense total length, and massive geographical domain across Peninsular India, which parallels the dominance and cultural stature of the Ganga in Northern India. Its broad basin covers vast agricultural tracts across multiple southern and central Indian states.

20. (C) Andhra Pradesh
After flowing through Maharashtra and Telangana, the Godavari enters Andhra Pradesh, where it pierces through the Eastern Ghats near Rajahmundry. Below Rajahmundry, the river splits into two main distributaries—Gautami and Vasishta—forming a broad, fertile delta complex spanning East Godavari and West Godavari districts before finally emptying into the Bay of Bengal.

21. (A) Krishna
The Krishna river is the second longest east-flowing Peninsular river in India, extending approximately 1,400 kilometers from its origin near Mahabaleshwar in Maharashtra to its outlet in the Bay of Bengal. Its large drainage basin spans Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh, second only to the Godavari basin in size among Peninsular systems.

22. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Godavari originates at Trimbakeshwar in Maharashtra. Krishna originates from a spring near Mahabaleshwar in the Sahyadri range. Kaveri originates at Talakaveri in the Brahmagiri hills of Karnataka. Narmada originates from the Amarkantak plateau in Madhya Pradesh. Matching each Peninsular river to its precise geographic origin yields the sequence P-4, Q-3, R-2, and S-1.

23. (B) Krishna
The Tungabhadra river is formed by the union of two mountain streams, the Tunga and the Bhadra, originating in the Western Ghats of Karnataka. Flowing northeastward across Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh, it serves as the largest right-bank tributary of the Krishna river, eventually uniting with Krishna near Kurnool in Andhra Pradesh.

24. (C) Wainganga
The Wainganga river is a major tributary of the Godavari river system, originating in the Mundara village of Seoni district, Madhya Pradesh, before merging with the Wardha to form the Pranhita. In contrast, Bhima, Musi, and Ghataprabha are all direct tributaries belonging to the Krishna river system, making Wainganga distinct from the others.

25. (D) It receives rainfall from both the southwest and northeast monsoons.
The upper catchment area of the Kaveri river basin receives abundant rainfall during the summer season from the southwest monsoon (June to September). Its lower catchment region in Tamil Nadu receives extensive rainfall during the winter season from the retreat of the northeast monsoon (October to December), maintaining a continuous flow throughout the year.

26. (A) Kaveri
The famous Sivasamudram waterfalls are located along the course of the Kaveri river in the Chamarajanagar district of Karnataka. Here, the river branches into two streams around Sivasamudram Island, plunging down steep cliff faces. The site hosted India's first commercial hydroelectric power station, established in 1902 to supply power to Kolar Gold Fields.

27. (B) Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Puducherry
The Kaveri river basin spans across southern India, encompassing areas within three states and one Union Territory. The total basin area is distributed among Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, and the Union Territory of Puducherry, where the river's distributary network discharges into the Bay of Bengal near Karaikal, establishing a vital hydrological region.

28. (A) Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri
Arranging these major east-flowing rivers along the eastern slope of India from north to south follows their latitude of entry into the Bay of Bengal. The Mahanadi river lies furthest north in Odisha, followed by Godavari in northern Andhra Pradesh, Krishna in central Andhra Pradesh, and Kaveri furthest south across Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

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29. (A) It flows through a rift valley between Vindhya and Satpura ranges.
Unlike most Peninsular rivers that flow eastward along the general regional slope toward the Bay of Bengal, the Narmada flows westward. It occupies a linear structural trough or rift valley formed by faulting between the Vindhya range to the north and the Satpura range to the south, forcing its flow towards the Gulf of Khambhat.

30. (C) I, II and III
The Narmada originates on the Amarkantak plateau in Madhya Pradesh, flows westward through a steep rift valley between the Vindhya and Satpura ranges, and forms the scenic Dhuandhar falls near Jabalpur. Because of high flow velocity and narrow rocky coastlines, it empties into the Arabian Sea by forming an estuary, rather than a delta.

31. (D) Subarnarekha
The Subarnarekha river originates on the Chota Nagpur plateau in Jharkhand and flows eastwards across West Bengal and Odisha before emptying into the Bay of Bengal, making it an east-flowing river. In contrast, Tapi, Mahi, and Sabarmati originate in central or western highland ranges and flow westward into the Arabian Sea via Gujarat.

32. (C) Multai in Betul district, Madhya Pradesh
The Tapi river originates in the high Satpura range near Multai, situated in the Betul district of Madhya Pradesh. It flows westward through a linear rift valley parallel to the Satpura range and Narmada river, traversing parts of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and southern Gujarat before discharging its flow into the Gulf of Khambhat.

33. (B) Its basin covers parts of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat.
The Tapi river basin encompasses a broad area across western central India, with its drainage network extending over parts of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat. Although it flows through a rift valley parallel to Narmada, Narmada is considerably longer, making Narmada the longest west-flowing Peninsular river while Tapi drains significant portions of these three states.

34. (D) Satluj
The Bhakra Nangal project consists of two distinct dams constructed across the Satluj river in northern India. The main Bhakra Dam, a massive concrete gravity structure, is located in the Bilaspur district of Himachal Pradesh, while the Nangal Dam sits downstream in Punjab. Together, they regulate flow from the Satluj for irrigation and hydroelectric generation.

35. (A) Only I and II
The Bhakra Nangal multi-purpose valley project was developed as a joint undertaking between the state governments of Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan. The massive reservoir impounded by the main Bhakra Dam on the Satluj river is named Gobind Sagar, honoring Guru Gobind Singh. The project utilizes water exclusively from the Satluj river, not the Jhelum.

36. (C) Mahanadi
The Hirakud Dam is built across the Mahanadi river near Sambalpur in Odisha. Constructed shortly after independence as a major multi-purpose valley development scheme, it features a main concrete and masonry section flanked by massive earth dykes. Stretching over 25 kilometers in total embankment length, it stands as one of the longest earthen dams globally.

37. (A) Odisha
The Hirakud Dam project is located in the state of Odisha, approximately 15 kilometers upstream from Sambalpur. Built across the Mahanadi river, the reservoir serves critical flood control functions in the coastal deltaic region of Odisha while simultaneously providing extensive canal irrigation and hydroelectric power generation across central and western districts of the state.

38. (B) 1-2-3-4
Arranging these major dam projects from north to south yields Bhakra Nangal first on the Satluj river in Himachal Pradesh/Punjab, followed by Tehri Dam on the Bhagirathi river in Uttarakhand. Continuing southward, Hirakud Dam is situated on the Mahanadi in Odisha, and Nagarjuna Sagar Dam is located furthest south on the Krishna river in Andhra/Telangana.

39. (B) Narmada
The Sardar Sarovar Dam is a prominent gravity dam constructed across the Narmada river near Navagam in Gujarat. Designed as part of

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the Narmada Valley Development Project, it provides large-scale irrigation, drinking water, and hydroelectric power generation. Its canal system transfers water across dry western Gujarat regions and extends northward into arid districts of Rajasthan.

40. (C) Chhattisgarh
The Sardar Sarovar Project is an inter-state multi-purpose venture sharing water and power benefits among four participating Western Indian states: Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan. Chhattisgarh is not a part of this multi-state inter-river agreement, as its river basins fall into the Mahanadi, Godavari, and Ganga systems rather than the Narmada basin network.

41. (D) Bhagirathi and Bhilangana
The Tehri Dam, the highest embankment dam in India, is constructed near Tehri town in Uttarakhand. It is located at the confluence of the Bhagirathi river—a primary headstream of the Ganga—and its tributary, the Bhilangana river. The impounded reservoir, named Swami Ram Tirth Sagar, retains flow to supply hydroelectric power and downstream urban water.

42. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Tehri Dam construction sparked widespread environmental protests and public opposition led by activists like Sunderlal Bahuguna. A primary concern centered on its placement in Seismic Zone V, a high-risk tectonic region of the Central Himalayas. Critics argued that a major earthquake could breach the structural reservoir, leading to catastrophic downstream flooding in densely populated river plains.

43. (B) Uttarakhand
The Tehri Dam project is situated in the Tehri Garhwal district of Uttarakhand in northern India. Resting in the outer Garhwal Himalayas, this high earth and rock-fill dam impounds the Bhagirathi and Bhilangana rivers to generate hydroelectric energy, control flooding, and supply municipal drinking water to downstream urban centers, including Delhi.

44. (B) Krishna
The Nagarjuna Sagar Dam is a large masonry dam constructed across the Krishna river. Situated at Nagarjuna Sagar, it impounds one of the largest man-made water reservoirs in Asia. The dam supplies critical canal irrigation water across broad agricultural districts in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana while generating substantial hydroelectric power through its multi-turbine facility.

45. (A) Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
The Nagarjuna Sagar multi-purpose project spans the Krishna river directly along the border separating Palnadu district in Andhra Pradesh and Nalgonda district in Telangana. Left and right bank main canals divert water to respective agricultural command areas in both states, rendering the project a crucial shared hydraulic asset for southern regional development and crop irrigation.

46. (C) A river basin drains a major river system, while a watershed drains a smaller stream or tributary.
While both concepts describe hydrological units bounded by topographical divides, they differ primarily in spatial scale. A river basin represents a large regional land area drained by a main river and all its secondary tributaries. Conversely, a watershed refers to a smaller catchments micro-unit draining runoff into an individual stream, rivulet, or small tributary system.

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47. (D) A project designed to serve multiple aims like irrigation, power, and flood control.
A multi-purpose river valley project is a integrated water resource development venture designed to fulfill several socio-economic objectives simultaneously. Rather than serving a single function, such projects combine infrastructure like dams and reservoirs to manage seasonal flooding, generate hydroelectric power, supply canal irrigation, ensure domestic drinking water supply, facilitate fish breeding, and promote inland navigation.

48. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Bhakra Nangal Dam is built on the Satluj river in northern India. Hirakud Dam is situated across the Mahanadi river in Odisha. Sardar Sarovar Dam impounds the Narmada river in Gujarat. Tehri Dam is constructed across the Bhagirathi river in Uttarakhand. Matching each project to its corresponding river yields the combination P-3, Q-4, R-1, and S-2.

49. (B) Tectonic activity
Wular Lake, situated in the Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir, is one of the largest natural freshwater lakes in Asia. It was formed due to tectonic activity that created a natural structural depression in the Kashmir basin, which was subsequently fed by the Jhelum river, maintaining its continuous water storage and dynamic ecosystem dynamics.

50. (B) I, II and IV
Wular Lake in Jammu and Kashmir is tectonic in origin and fed by the Jhelum river. Chilika Lake in Odisha is India's largest coastal lagoon. Pulicat Lake is situated on the Coromandel coast spanning Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Dal Lake is located in Jammu and Kashmir, near Srinagar, rather than in Himachal Pradesh.

51. (A) Rad
The floating gardens of Dal Lake in Srinagar are locally referred to as 'Rad'. These unique agricultural structures are built by weaving aquatic vegetation, reeds, and mud into floating mats anchored to the lake bed. Local farmers cultivate vegetable crops such as tomatoes, cucumbers, and melons directly on these buoyant surfaces throughout the summer growing season.

52. (C) Mahanadi
Chilika Lake, a vast brackish water lagoon situated along the eastern coast in Odisha, lies near the southern mouth of the Mahanadi river delta system. Distributaries of the Mahanadi, along with small streams like Daya and Bhargavi, discharge into Chilika, maintaining its rich estuarine ecosystem that supports diverse migratory birds and marine biodiversity.

53. (A) Daya and Bhargavi
The Daya and Bhargavi rivers are distributaries of the Kuakhai river, which branches off from the Mahanadi delta system. Both rivers flow southward and discharge directly into the northern sector of Chilika Lake in Odisha, supplying substantial volumes of freshwater that moderate the lagoon's salinity levels and support its rich brackish water ecosystem.

54. (D) Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu
Pulicat Lake is the second largest brackish water lagoon in India, situated along the Coromandel Coast. It lies directly on the border between the Tirupati district of Andhra Pradesh and the Tiruvallur district of Tamil Nadu. The majority of the lagoon's water spread area falls within Andhra Pradesh, while its southern opening lies in Tamil Nadu.

55. (A) Only I and II
Pulicat Lake is separated from the Bay of Bengal by the barrier island of Sriharikota, home to India's satellite launch center. The lagoon forms a critical wetland habitat attracting thousands of migratory birds, including large flocks of flamingos. It is not situated entirely within Andhra Pradesh, as its southern section extends into northern Tamil Nadu.

56. (C) Ken-Betwa link
The Ken-Betwa river interlinking project represents the inaugural project implemented under the National Perspective Plan for interbasin water transfer in India. It aims to transfer surplus water from the Ken river to the water-deficit Betwa river basin across the drought-prone Bundelkhand region spanning Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, providing vital irrigation and drinking water assets.

57. (D) Converting perennial rivers into seasonal rivers
The primary goals of the National River Interlinking Project include diverting surplus floodwaters from water-abundant basins to drought-prone, water-deficit basins, boosting irrigation infrastructure, improving inland navigation, and generating hydroelectric power. Degrading or converting natural perennial rivers into dry seasonal rivers directly contradicts the project's foundational objective of ensuring long-term ecological and hydrological water security.

58. (A) Kandla, Mumbai, New Mangalore, Kochi
Sequencing major ports along India's western coast from north to south follows their latitude along the Arabian Sea. Deendayal (Kandla) Port sits furthest north in Gujarat's Gulf of Kutch, followed by Mumbai Port in Maharashtra, New Mangalore Port along the Karnataka coastline, and Kochi Port located furthest south in the state of Kerala.

59. (B) Malabar Coast
The narrow Western Coastal Plain stretching between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea is subdivided into regional sectors. The northern section along Maharashtra and Goa is called the

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Konkan Coast, the central stretch in Karnataka is known as the Kannad Plain, and the southern section along Kerala is designated as the Malabar Coast.

60. (B) Malabar Coast
The Malabar Coast of Kerala is geographically distinguished by a series of shallow backwaters, locally known as 'Kayals'. These shallow brackish lagoons and interconnected canal networks lie parallel to the coastline, protected by barrier islands. They play an essential socio-economic role by supporting local fishing, traditional agriculture, inland water transport, and international tourism.

61. (B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
The western coastline of India is predominantly a submerged coast (except for the northern Malabar coast), characterized by high indentations, narrow continental shelves, and estuaries rather than broad deltas. Conversely, the eastern coast is an emergent coast with a much broader continental shelf and extensive delta formations created by rivers like Mahanadi, Godavari, and Kaveri.

62. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Rivers flowing west into the Arabian Sea originate in the Western Ghats and traverse short, steep paths with high gradients and rapid water currents. Because they flow across hard rocky terrain, they collect very low sediment loads and swiftly clear debris into deep offshore coastal waters, forming funnel-shaped estuaries instead of accumulating landward deltas.

63. (D) Coromandel Coast
The southern sector of the Eastern Coastal Plain facing the Bay of Bengal, spanning from False Divi Point in Andhra Pradesh down to Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu, is named the Coromandel Coast. Known for its broad deltas and smooth sandy beaches, this coastline receives significant rainfall during late autumn from retreating monsoon winds.

64. (C) Northeast (Retreating) Monsoon
During the winter season between October and December, moisture-bearing trade winds reverse direction, giving rise to the Northeast or Retreating Monsoon. As these dry continental winds sweep across the warm expanse of the Bay of Bengal, they pick up abundant moisture and drop heavy precipitation along the Coromandel Coast of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

65. (B) Visakhapatnam
Visakhapatnam Port, located in Andhra Pradesh along the eastern coast of India, is a naturally protected harbor sheltered by the prominent high rocky promontory known as Dolphin's Nose. Its natural layout makes it the deepest landlocked port in India, providing safe, high-draft deepwater anchorage and protection from severe Bay of Bengal tropical cyclones.

66. (D) Decongest Mumbai Port and serve as a hub port.
Jawaharlal Nehru Port (Nhava Sheva), commissioned in 1989 near Navi Mumbai, was specifically developed as a modern deepwater satellite port. Its main purpose was to relieve severe congestion at the adjacent historic Mumbai Port and handle large container vessel traffic, operating as India's premier, fully automated container handling hub on the western coast.

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67. (A) Mormugao
Mormugao Port is situated in Goa on the Arabian Sea, establishing it firmly on the Western Coast of India as a premier iron ore export hub. In contrast, Haldia in West Bengal, Paradip in Odisha, and Tuticorin (V.O. Chidambaranar) in Tamil Nadu are all major seaports located along the Eastern Coast.

68. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Paradip Port is a major deep-water port situated in the state of Odisha. Mormugao Port serves as an essential iron ore exporting port located in Goa. New Mangalore Port operates along the coastal plain of Karnataka. Kamarajar (Ennore) Port is a corporatized major port situated in Tamil Nadu, producing the correct matching order P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2.

69. (A) Kolkata
Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port in Kolkata is the premier riverine major port in India, located roughly 128 kilometers inland on the banks of the tidal Hooghly river. Unlike coastal seaports like Chennai, Kochi, or Visakhapatnam that sit directly on ocean shores, Kolkata Port requires continuous river dredging to maintain navigable depth for ocean vessels.

70. (A) I, II and III
Launched in 1986 as a 100% centrally sponsored scheme, the Ganga Action Plan Phase-I aimed to improve water quality through municipal sewage interception, diversion, and treatment. However, it failed to eliminate all industrial pollution, leading to subsequent action phases and comprehensive programs due to continuous industrial expansion and urban waste discharge.

71. (C) 2014
The 'Namami Gange' Programme was approved as a flagship initiative by the Union Government in June 2014 with a dedicated budget allocation of Rs 20,000 crore. Implemented by the National Mission for Clean Ganga, it integrates river rejuvenation efforts, sewage treatment infrastructure, riverfront development, and industrial effluent monitoring across Ganga basin states.

72. (C) Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly system from Prayagraj to Haldia
National Waterway 1 (NW-1) covers the 1,620-kilometer navigable stretch of the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system, extending from Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh down to Haldia in West Bengal. It serves as a vital inland commercial corridor supported by modern multi-modal terminals at Varanasi, Sahibganj, and Haldia under the Jal Marg Vikas Project.

73. (D) Brahmaputra
National Waterway 2 (NW-2) encompasses an 891-kilometer navigable stretch situated entirely on the Brahmaputra river in Assam, running from Dhubri near the Bangladesh border up to Sadiya. Declared a national waterway in 1988, it facilitates freight cargo transport, passenger ferry services, and tourism movement throughout the Brahmaputra river valley.

74. (A) The rivers are seasonal and face sharp water level fluctuations.
Peninsular rivers depend primarily on monsoonal rainfall, rendering them seasonal in nature with extreme volume fluctuations. During dry winter and summer months, water depths drop precipitously, creating shallow sandbars and exposing rocky bed outcrops. These sharp natural reductions in flow prevent stable, round-the-year navigation for heavy commercial freight barges without expensive regulated channel impoundment.

75. (A) Only I and II
NW-1 is located along the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly system from Prayagraj to Haldia, and NW-2 spans the Brahmaputra river from Sadiya to Dhubri. However, NW-3 is located along the West Coast Canal in Kerala (stretching from Kollam to Kottapuram), whereas Godavari and Krishna waterways form parts of National Waterway 4, making statement III incorrect.

76. (B) Ganga
The Ganga is the longest river flowing through Indian territory, extending approximately 2,525 kilometers from its source at Gaumukh in the Garhwal Himalayas to its mouth at the Bay of Bengal. Trans-boundary rivers like the Indus and Brahmaputra have greater total lengths overall, but smaller portions of their total courses lie within India's political borders.

77. (A) The Mahanadi originates in Western Ghats and flows to Bay of Bengal.
The Mahanadi river originates in the highlands of Sihawa in the Dhamtari district of Chhattisgarh, not in the Western Ghats. It flows eastward through Chhattisgarh and Odisha to reach the Bay of Bengal. Descriptions regarding Godavari's basin size, Narmada's length among west-flowing rivers, and Brahmaputra's massive discharge volume are all geographically factual.

78. (C) Mahi
The Mahi river originates in the Vindhya Range in the Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh. It initially flows northwest through Rajasthan before curving southwest into Gujarat to discharge into the Gulf of Khambhat. During this unique arching course, the Mahi river intersects and crosses the Tropic of Cancer (23.5° N latitude) twice.

79. (D) The Rann of Kachchh
The Luni river originates in the Pushkar valley of the Aravalli Range near Ajmer in Rajasthan. Traversing southwestward across the Thar Desert for over 490 kilometers, it is an ephemeral, inland river system. Rather than reaching an open sea or ocean, it loses flow volume and dissipates into the marshy saline flats of the Rann of Kachchh in Gujarat.

80. (A) Youthful stage
In their mountainous upper courses, Himalayan rivers exhibit high stream gradients, severe

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hydraulic vertical downcutting, and energetic flow momentum. These active erosional processes form pronounced landforms such as steep V-shaped valleys, deep gorges, waterfalls, and turbulent rapids. Such landforms are classic geographic indicators of rivers performing active erosion in their youthful stage of landscape evolution.

81. (B) The land area drained by a river and its tributaries.
A river basin defines the entire geographical catchment surface bounded by a natural topographic watershed divide, where all surface runoff and tributary streams channel gravity flow into a single main river channel. It encompasses the collective terrestrial landscape drained by the primary trunk stream and its extensive network of branching tributaries from origin to outlet.

82. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
As the Yamuna river flows through the National Capital Territory of Delhi, massive volumes of untreated domestic sewage and toxic industrial effluents are continuously discharged into its channel. Microorganisms consume dissolved oxygen to decompose this overwhelming load of organic pollutants, causing Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels to spike sharply and severely degrading river ecosystem health.

83. (A) Brahmaputra
The Subansiri, Kameng, Dhansiri, and Manas are prominent tributaries of the Brahmaputra river system. Subansiri, Kameng, and Manas join the main channel from its northern left/right bank along the Eastern Himalayas in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, and Bhutan, whereas Dhansiri drains south-central Assam before feeding directly into the main Brahmaputra trunk stream.

84. (C) Jhelum
The Jhelum river originates from the Verinag spring in the Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir, located at the base of the Pir Panjal range. In contrast, the Beas originates near Rohtang Pass, the Ravi near Kundu in Chamba district, and the Chenab (Chandra-Bhaga) at Tandi, all situated within the state of Himachal Pradesh.

85. (A) 1-2-3-4
Ranking these major Indian rivers in decreasing order of overall length: the Ganga spans approximately 2,525 km, followed by the Godavari at 1,465 km, the Krishna at about 1,400 km, and the Narmada at roughly 1,312 km. This continuous spatial progression establishes the accurate descending length sequence as 1-2-3-4 across Indian hydrology.

86. (D) It spans Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha.
The Godavari river basin is the largest Peninsular river system in India, extending across Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha, as well as small portions of Madhya Pradesh and Puducherry. The Ganga basin remains India's largest overall basin, and the Godavari receives the bulk of its precipitation from the southwest monsoon.

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87. (B) Krishna
The Almatti Dam (officially designated as Lal Bahadur Shastri Dam) is a major dam project constructed across the Krishna river in the Vijayapura district of North Karnataka. It serves as the primary reservoir structure for the Upper Krishna Irrigation Project, supplying extensive water for irrigation and generating hydroelectric energy for Karnataka state.

88. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Wular Lake is a freshwater lake formed by tectonic activity in Kashmir. Chilika Lake is a vast coastal brackish lagoon in Odisha. Pulicat Lake functions as a barrier lagoon separated from the sea by Sriharikota island. Lonar Lake in Maharashtra is an endorheic crater lake formed by a meteorite impact, matching sequence P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3.

89. (D) They both flow through structural trough or rift valleys.
Both the Narmada and Tapi rivers flow westward into the Arabian Sea, occupying structural rift valleys or down-faulted linear troughs created by tectonic movements between mountain blocks (Vindhya, Satpura, and Ajanta ranges). Unlike east-flowing peninsular rivers, they bypass the general tilt of the peninsula and form funnel-shaped estuaries instead of deltas.

90. (A) The Western Coast

The Western Coast of India features a significantly wider continental shelf than the Eastern Coast, expanding up to 200 kilometers off the Mumbai coast. This broad submerged continental margin resulted from tectonic faulting and landmass submergence during Indian plate movement, creating vast shallow sea zones that support abundant marine fisheries and rich offshore oilfields like Mumbai High.

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CHAPTER 04
Wildlife Sanctuaries of India

1. The concept of "Biodiversity Hotspots" is given to regions that are highly biologically diverse but also highly threatened. Which of the following regions is not classified as a biodiversity hotspot in India?
(A) The Gangetic Plains
(B) The Western Ghats
(C) The Himalayas
(D) The Indo-Burma region

2. To qualify as a biodiversity hotspot, a region must meet two strict criteria related to endemism and habitat loss. What is the minimum percentage of its original native habitat that a hotspot must have lost to qualify?
(A) 30 percent
(B) 50 percent
(C) 70 percent
(D) 90 percent

3. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Western Ghats are classified as one of the biodiversity hotspots of the world.
Reason (R): The region possesses high levels of species richness and high degrees of endemism, but faces severe threats from human activities.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

4. Under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, what is the fundamental legal distinction between a National Park and a Wildlife Sanctuary?
(A) Sanctuaries are created by the Central Government, while National Parks are created by the State Governments.
(B) National Parks can only protect flora, whereas Wildlife Sanctuaries protect both flora and fauna.
(C) Wildlife Sanctuaries have larger core areas compared to National Parks.
(D) No human activity is allowed inside a National Park, whereas limited rights like grazing may be permitted in a Wildlife Sanctuary.

5. Match the following National Parks with their respective States:
List I: (National Parks)
P. Eravikulam National Park
Q. Valmiki National Park
R. Betla National Park
S. Keibul Lamjao National Park
List II: (States)
1. Manipur
2. Kerala
3. Bihar
4. Jharkhand
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

6. Identify the correct statement regarding the declaration of Wildlife Sanctuaries in India.
(A) Only the Parliament of India has the power to declare an area as a Wildlife Sanctuary.
(B) A Wildlife Sanctuary cannot be upgraded to a National Park once it is notified.
(C) State Governments can declare an area as a Wildlife Sanctuary by notification if it is of adequate ecological significance.
(D) Private lands cannot be included within the boundaries of a newly declared Wildlife Sanctuary under any circumstances.

7. Which of the following activities is generally permitted as a recorded right within a Wildlife Sanctuary but is strictly prohibited inside a National Park?
(A) Commercial mining of major minerals
(B) Clear-felling of trees for timber
(C) Establishment of heavy polluting industries
(D) Livestock grazing by local communities

8. Consider the following statements regarding the classification of protected areas in India:

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I. Biosphere Reserves are notified under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
II. National Parks enjoy a higher degree of protection than Wildlife Sanctuaries.
III. Conservation Reserves act as buffer zones to or connectors and migration corridors between established national parks and wildlife sanctuaries.

Which of the above combination of statements is correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

9. Which of the following is the largest protected area in Rajasthan by geographical extent, known for the conservation of the Great Indian Bustard?
(A) Ranthambore National Park
(B) Desert National Park
(C) Keoladeo Ghana National Park
(D) Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve

10. Which zone of a Biosphere Reserve is legally protected and allows no human interference except for permitted scientific research and monitoring?
(A) Buffer Zone
(B) Core Zone
(C) Transition Zone
(D) Manipulation Zone

11. Read the following statements regarding Project Tiger:
Statement I: Project Tiger was launched in the year 1973 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
Statement II: The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is a statutory body constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

12. Consider the following zones of a typical UNESCO Biosphere Reserve:
I. Transition Zone
II. Core Zone
III. Buffer Zone
Which of the following represents the correct spatial order starting from the innermost region to the outermost region?
(A) II, III, I
(B) II, I, III
(C) I, III, II
(D) III, II, I

13. Ramgarh Vishdhari was notified as a Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan. It acts as a crucial corridor connecting which of the following two major protected areas?
(A) Sariska and Desert National Park
(B) Kumbhalgarh and Mount Abu
(C) Keoladeo and National Chambal Sanctuary
(D) Ranthambore and Mukundra Hills

14. Which of the following districts of Rajasthan primarily hosts the Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve?
(A) Sawai Madhopur
(B) Kota
(C) Bundi
(D) Alwar

15. Consider the following Tiger Reserves of Rajasthan:
I. Ranthambore
II. Sariska
III. Mukundra Hills
IV. Dholpur-Karauli
Which combination represents the correct chronological order of their official notification as Tiger Reserves (from earliest to latest)?
(A) I, II, III, IV
(B) I, III, II, IV
(C) II, I, III, IV
(D) II, III, I, IV

16. Project Elephant was launched by the Government of India in which of the following years to provide financial and technical support to major elephant bearing States?
(A) 1986
(B) 1992
(C) 2002
(D) 2010

17. The MIKE programme is an international collaboration that tracks information on the illegal killing of which of the following species?
(A) Elephants
(B) Tigers
(C) Rhinoceros
(D) Snow Leopards

18. The Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme is an intergovernmental scientific programme

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launched by which of the following international organizations?
(A) IUCN
(B) UNEP
(C) UNESCO
(D) WWF

19. Kaziranga National Park is located in the floodplains of which major river system?
(A) Brahmaputra
(B) Ganga
(C) Teesta
(D) Mahanadi

20. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Traditional pugmark tracking has been largely replaced by camera trapping and DNA analysis for the All India Tiger Estimation.
Reason (R): Pugmark tracking is highly prone to statistical errors and does not provide an accurate individual identification of tigers in all terrains.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

21. Which of the following globally threatened species contains its largest remaining natural population in Kaziranga National Park?
(A) Asiatic Lion population
(B) One-horned Rhinoceros
(C) Great Indian Bustard bird
(D) Mountain Nilgiri Tahr

22. Consider the following statements about Kaziranga National Park:
I. It is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
II. It is crisscrossed by four main rivers, including the Brahmaputra.
III. It is located in the state of West Bengal.
Which combination of the above statements is incorrect?
(A) I only
(B) II and III only
(C) III only
(D) I and II only

23. Jim Corbett National Park, the oldest national park in India, was originally established in 1936 under which of the following names?
(A) Harding National Park
(B) Imperial National Park
(C) Victoria National Park
(D) Hailey National Park

24. Which major river flows through the Jim Corbett National Park, heavily influencing its landscape and providing vital water resources to the wildlife?
(A) Ramganga
(B) Yamuna
(C) Bhagirathi
(D) Alaknanda

25. The Sundarbans National Park derives its name from the "Sundari" tree, which belongs to which of the following categories of vegetation?
(A) Tropical Evergreen
(B) Mangrove
(C) Alpine Coniferous
(D) Tropical Deciduous

26. Match the following National Parks with their flagship conservation species:
List I: (National Parks)
P. Gir Forest
Q. Dachigam
R. Keibul Lamjao
S. Hemis
List II: (Conservation Species)
1. Hangul (Kashmir Stag)
2. Snow Leopard
3. Sangai (Brow-antlered deer)
4. Asiatic Lion
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(D) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3

27. Read the following statements regarding the Gir Forest National Park:
Statement I: It is the only natural habitat of the Asiatic lion in the world.
Statement II: It is located in the Kathiawar peninsula of Gujarat.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is

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incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

28. To prevent the potential extinction of Asiatic lions due to epidemics or natural disasters in Gir, a relocation project was initiated to move a second population to which of the following wildlife sanctuaries?
(A) Bandhavgarh National Park
(B) Ranthambore National Park
(C) Kuno National Park
(D) Pench National Park

29. Which of the following statements about Jim Corbett National Park is incorrect?
(A) It was the official first national park in India to come under the Project Tiger initiative.
(B) It is geographically located in the Nainital and Pauri Garhwal districts of Uttarakhand.
(C) It encompasses the vast Patli Dun valley formed by the flowing Ramganga river.
(D) It is covered mainly by alpine meadows and coniferous forests.

30. Select the odd one out among the following protected areas based on their geographical location (State):
(A) Rajaji National Park
(B) Valley of Flowers National Park
(C) Pin Valley National Park
(D) Nanda Devi National Park

31. Bandhavgarh National Park, known for one of the highest known densities of the Bengal tiger population in India, is located in which state?
(A) Maharashtra
(B) Madhya Pradesh
(C) Chhattisgarh
(D) Karnataka

32. Consider the following features associated with a famous National Park in India:
I. It is situated in the Vindhya hills.
II. It is renowned for the historical presence of white tigers in the nearby Rewa region.
III. The park features a large ancient fort on a prominent hill within its core area.
IV. It was declared a National Park in 1968.
Which combination perfectly maps to these four statements?
(A) Kanha National Park
(B) Panna National Park
(C) Madhav National Park
(D) Bandhavgarh National Park

33. The Ramsar Convention, an international treaty for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, was signed in 1971 in which country?
(A) Iran
(B) Switzerland
(C) France
(D) Brazil

34. Which of the following pairs represents the only two designated Ramsar Wetland Sites currently recognized in the state of Rajasthan?
(A) Historic Pichola Lake and Anasagar Lake
(B) Scenic Nakki Lake and Pushkar Lake
(C) Keoladeo and Sambhar Lakes
(D) Jawai Dam and Siliserh Lake

35. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Keoladeo National Park in Rajasthan was placed on the Montreux Record.
Reason (R): The Montreux Record is a register of wetland sites where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur due to technological developments, pollution, or other human interference.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

36. Which of the following is NOT recognized as a Ramsar Wetland Site in India?
(A) Chilika Lake
(B) Loktak Lake
(C) Wular Lake
(D) Dal Lake

37. Which was the first Biosphere Reserve established in India under the UNESCO Man and Biosphere (MAB) programme?
(A) Gulf of Mannar
(B) Nilgiri
(C) Nanda Devi
(D) Sundarbans

38. Select the correct geographical sequence of the following Biosphere Reserves of India from North to South:
(A) Cold Desert > Nanda Devi > Pachmarhi > Agasthyamalai

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(B) Nanda Devi > Cold Desert > Agasthyamalai > Pachmarhi
(C) Cold Desert > Pachmarhi > Nanda Devi > Agasthyamalai
(D) Nanda Devi > Pachmarhi > Cold Desert > Agasthyamalai

39. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve:
(A) It is widely recognized as the largest contiguous mangrove forest block in the world.
(B) It represents the only mangrove forest ecosystem that serves as a natural habitat for tigers.
(C) It faces increasingly severe threats from rising global sea levels and water salinity.
(D) The entire region lies exclusively within India.

40. What is the most appropriate primary objective of establishing a Biosphere Reserve as distinct from a National Park?
(A) To balance biodiversity conservation with local economic development.
(B) To physically fence off extremely large tracts of forest land to prevent all human entry.
(C) To systematically breed endangered species in captivity for subsequent release into the wild.
(D) To clear all existing natural flora and replant exclusively commercially valuable timber species.

41. Tropical Evergreen Forests in India are typically found in regions that receive an average annual rainfall of:
(A) Less than 70 cm
(B) Between 70 cm and 100 cm
(C) Between 100 cm and 200 cm
(D) More than 200 cm

42. Consider the following regions in India:
I. Western slopes of the Western Ghats
II. Semi-arid plateaus of Rajasthan
III. Hills of the northeastern states
Which of the above combination of regions naturally supports Tropical Evergreen Forests?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

43. Based on geographical area coverage, which is the most widespread and extensive forest type found in India?
(A) Tropical Deciduous Forests
(B) Tropical Evergreen Forests
(C) Montane Coniferous Forests
(D) Mangrove Forests

44. Teak, Sal, Shisham, and Sandalwood are commercially significant timber trees that are primarily dominant in which of the following forest types?
(A) Tropical Wet Evergreen Forests
(B) Sub-tropical Broadleaved Hill Forests
(C) Tropical Moist Deciduous Forests
(D) Himalayan Dry Temperate Forests

45. In the context of Rajasthan's vegetation, the tree species Anogeissus pendula (commonly known as Dhok or Dhokda) predominantly constitutes which type of forest?
(A) Tropical Evergreen Forest
(B) Sub-tropical Pine Forest
(C) Alpine Scrub Forest
(D) Dry Deciduous Forest

46. Coniferous forests in India, characterized by trees with needle-like leaves and cone-bearing reproduction, are naturally found in which geographical region?
(A) The Eastern Ghats Range
(B) The Aravalli Mountain Range
(C) The Himalayas
(D) The Malabar Coastal Region

47. Match the Forest Types with their typical representative tree species:
List I: (Forest Types)
P. Tropical Evergreen
Q. Tropical Moist Deciduous
R. Tropical Thorn Forest
S. Montane Coniferous
List II: (Tree Species)
1. Pine, Deodar
2. Mahogany, Rosewood
3. Acacia, Babool
4. Teak, Sal
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(B) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2

48. Which of the following statements about Tropical Evergreen Forests is scientifically incorrect?

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(A) They lack a definite time for trees to shed their leaves, appearing green year-round.
(B) They exhibit high species diversity and a multi-layered structure.
(C) Epiphytes and lianas are common structural components of these forests.
(D) The forest floor receives abundant sunlight due to the sparse canopy.

49. Read the following statements concerning deciduous forests in India:
Statement I: Moist deciduous forests are found in areas receiving 100 to 200 cm of rainfall.
Statement II: Dry deciduous forests transition into thorn forests in areas receiving less than 70 cm of rainfall.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

50. Select the odd one out from the following list of tree species, considering the forest types they naturally belong to in India:
(A) Spruce
(B) Fir
(C) Ebony
(D) Cedar (Deodar)

51. The India State of Forest Report (ISFR) is a comprehensive assessment of the country's forest and tree cover. How frequently is this report published by the Forest Survey of India (FSI)?
(A) Annually (Every year)
(B) Biennially
(C) Every three years
(D) Every five years

52. Arrange the following states in descending order of their total forest cover area as per the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021:
I. Arunachal Pradesh
II. Madhya Pradesh
III. Odisha
IV. Chhattisgarh
Which of the following represents the correct descending order?
(A) II, I, IV, III
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, IV, I, III
(D) I, IV, II, III

53. Consider the following statements regarding the forest cover of Rajasthan as per ISFR 2021:
I. Udaipur district has the highest forest cover in the state in terms of total area.
II. Churu district has the lowest forest cover in the state.
III. The recorded forest area of Rajasthan is approximately 33% of its total geographical area.
IV. Very Dense Forest (VDF) constitutes the largest proportion of Rajasthan's total forest cover.
Which combination of the above statements is correct?
(A) III and IV only
(B) I and II only
(C) I, II, and III only
(D) II, III, and IV only

54. The Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2022 significantly restructured the schedules of protected species. Following this amendment, the total number of Schedules in the Act has been reduced to:
(A) Two
(B) Three
(C) Four
(D) Five

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55. Under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, hunting of wild animals specified in the protection schedules is strictly prohibited. However, the Chief Wildlife Warden may permit hunting under which specific exceptional circumstance?
(A) If the animal is required for commercial meat processing.
(B) If local communities require the animal for traditional sporting events.
(C) If the population of the animal exceeds the arbitrary limit set by the local panchayat.
(D) If the animal has become dangerous to human life or is disabled beyond recovery.

56. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Species listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 receive the absolute highest level of legal protection in India.
Reason (R): Poaching or trading of Schedule

I species incurs the most severe penalties prescribed under the Act.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

57. The Bishnoi community of Rajasthan is globally renowned for its centuries-old tradition of environmental conservation and strict protection of a specific antelope species, which is protected under Schedule I of the WPA 1972. Identify the species.
(A) Nilgai (Blue Bull)
(B) Blackbuck
(C) Chinkara (Indian Gazelle)
(D) Barasingha (Swamp Deer)

58. Identify the incorrect pair regarding the percentage of geographical area under forest cover as per ISFR 2021:
(A) Mizoram — Highest percentage among all states
(B) Madhya Pradesh — Highest percentage among all states
(C) Haryana — Among the lowest percentages in India
(D) Lakshadweep — Highest percentage among Union Territories

59. Read the following statements regarding the institutional framework for wildlife conservation:
Statement I: The National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) is a statutory organization constituted under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
Statement II: The National Board for Wildlife is chaired by the Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

60. According to the National Forest Policy of India (1988), what is the targeted optimum percentage of the country's total geographical area that should be maintained under forest and tree cover for ecological stability?
(A) 20 percent
(B) 25 percent
(C) 33 percent
(D) 50 percent

61. The 'Red Data Book', which maintains a comprehensive public record of rare and endangered species of animals, plants, and fungi, is published by which organization?
(A) World Wide Fund for Nature International (WWF)
(B) United Nations Environment Programme Council (UNEP)
(C) Global Environment Facility Organization (GEF)
(D) International Union for Conservation of Nature

62. Consider the following bird species found in India:
I. Great Indian Bustard
II. Jerdon's Courser
III. Indian Vulture
Which combination of the above species is currently listed as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

63. The Great Indian Bustard, known locally as 'Godawan', is the state bird of Rajasthan. What is the primary ecological threat driving its population decline in the Thar Desert region?
(A) Unregulated commercial logging of desert forest trees
(B) Collisions with overhead power lines
(C) Severe water pollution in temporary desert lakes
(D) Widespread over-predation by the Asiatic lion

64. Human-wildlife conflict is a major conservation challenge in India. Which of the following is considered the most fundamental underlying cause of increasing human-elephant conflicts?
(A) An exponential natural increase in the elephant birth rate
(B) A shift in elephant diets from vegetation to cultivated crops due to climate change
(C) Aggressive behavior induced by inter-species

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competition with tigers
(D) Habitat fragmentation and loss of elephant corridors

65. Select the correct sequence of IUCN Red List categories showing an increasing risk of global extinction:
(A) Endangered > Vulnerable > Critically Endangered > Extinct in the Wild
(B) Vulnerable > Endangered > Critically Endangered > Extinct in the Wild
(C) Critically Endangered > Endangered > Vulnerable > Extinct in the Wild
(D) Vulnerable > Critically Endangered > Endangered > Extinct in the Wild

66. The Wildlife Institute of India (WII), an internationally acclaimed institution that provides training programs and conducts research in wildlife science, is located in which city?
(A) Bhopal
(B) Bengaluru
(C) Dehradun
(D) New Delhi

67. Which of the following best describes the primary mandate of the Wildlife Institute of India (WII)?
(A) To conduct research and training in wildlife conservation and management.
(B) To manually conduct an annual census of all wild animals living in India every year.
(C) To act as the primary nodal police enforcement agency for investigating wildlife crimes.
(D) To manage the daily administrative operations and logistics of all National Parks in the country.

68. Select the odd one out among the following fauna species regarding their current conservation status in India:
(A) Snow Leopard
(B) Pangolin
(C) Wild Water Buffalo
(D) Wild Boar

69. Read the following statements regarding linear infrastructure in wildlife habitats:
Statement I: The construction of highways and railway lines through protected forests often leads to habitat fragmentation and animal mortality.
Statement II: Creating eco-bridges and underpasses is a recognized mitigation strategy to allow safe passage for wildlife across such infrastructure.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

70. Which of the following statements about the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) is incorrect?
(A) It was established in the year 1982.
(B) It functions as an autonomous institution.
(C) It falls under the administrative control of the Ministry of Science and Technology.
(D) It provides consultancy services to government and non-government organizations on wildlife management.

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71. In the context of India's forest conservation efforts, what does the acronym CAMPA stand for?
(A) Central Authority for the Sustainable Management of Protected Forest Areas
(B) Conservation and Afforestation Management Programme Act for Forest Restoration
(C) Committee for National Assessment of Minor Forest Produce and Afforestation
(D) Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority

72. Under which specific circumstance is a project proponent legally mandated to deposit funds into the CAMPA account?
(A) When diverting forest land for non-forest industrial or mining purposes.
(B) When harvesting commercial timber from privately owned timber plantations.
(C) When initiating a community-driven social forestry or agroforestry project.
(D) When capturing wild animals from protected areas for scientific research.

73. CITES is a multilateral treaty to protect endangered plants and animals. What does CITES stand for?
(A) Council for International Trade of Endangered Species and Threatened Biodiversity
(B) Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

(C) Committee on International Treaties for Ecological Sustainability and Conservation
(D) Centre for International Tracking of Endangered Species and Wild Wildlife

74. Consider the following statements about CITES Appendices:
I. Appendix I lists species that are the most endangered and commercial trade in them is generally prohibited.
II. Appendix II lists species that are not necessarily threatened with extinction but trade must be controlled to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival.
III. Appendix III contains species that are protected in at least one country, which has asked other CITES Parties for assistance in controlling the trade.
IV. India is not a signatory to the CITES agreement.
Which combination represents the correct statements?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I and II only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

75. Match the following Wildlife Sanctuaries / Parks of Rajasthan with their primary associated districts:
List I: (Wildlife Sanctuaries / Parks)
P. Sita Mata Wildlife Sanctuary
Q. Tal Chhapar Sanctuary
R. Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary
S. Bandh Baretha Sanctuary
List II: (Districts)
1. Churu
2. Sirohi
3. Bharatpur
4. Pratapgarh
(A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4

76. Identify the correctly matched pair of the State and its famous Wildlife Sanctuary/National Park:
(A) Periyar National Park — Tamil Nadu
(B) Namdapha National Park — Sikkim
(C) Manas National Park — Assam
(D) Similipal National Park — Chhattisgarh

77. Read the following statements regarding the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016:
Statement I: The Act provides for the establishment of the National Compensatory Afforestation Fund and the State Compensatory Afforestation Funds.
Statement II: 90% of the compensatory afforestation money collected is to be transferred to the National Fund, while 10% is retained by the State Fund.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

78. CITES was drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in 1963 at a meeting of members of the IUCN. It is also commonly referred to by the name of the city where it was signed. What is this informal name?
(A) The Geneva Convention
(B) The Paris Climate Agreement
(C) Washington Convention
(D) The Kyoto Climate Protocol

79. The Sita Mata Wildlife Sanctuary in Rajasthan is ecologically significant because it is renowned as a primary habitat for which of the following unique species?
(A) The Indian Pangolin
(B) The Flying Squirrel
(C) The Snow Leopard
(D) The Wild Ass

80. The funds collected under CAMPA are meant to be utilized exclusively for specific environmental restoration activities. Which of the following activities is an EXCEPTION and generally NOT permitted using CAMPA funds?
(A) Assisted natural regeneration and artificial regeneration of degraded forest areas
(B) Comprehensive wildlife protection and intensive habitat restoration management
(C) Supply of wood saving cooking appliances in vulnerable forest-fringe villages
(D) Payment of regular salaries to forest department staff

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81. Mangroves are a distinct group of halophytic plants. The term "halophytic" means these plants are specially adapted to survive in:
(A) Habitats with highly saline soil and brackish water
(B) Soils with extreme deficiencies in nitrogen
(C) High-altitude environments with freezing temperatures
(D) Arid desert environments with zero surface water

82. According to the ISFR 2021, which Indian state possesses the maximum area covered by mangrove forests?
(A) Gujarat
(B) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
(C) West Bengal
(D) Maharashtra

83. Mangrove trees possess specialized root structures called 'pneumatophores'. What is the primary physiological function of these roots?
(A) To absorb atmospheric oxygen in waterlogged soils.
(B) To deeply anchor the tree trunk against severe hurricane-force coastal winds.
(C) To store large reserves of freshwater synthesized directly from ocean salt water.
(D) To synthetically fix large amounts of atmospheric nitrogen directly into the soil.

84. Read the following statements regarding the ecological role of mangroves:
Statement I: Mangrove ecosystems act as natural coastal defense mechanisms against storm surges, cyclones, and tsunamis.
Statement II: Mangrove forests are poor carbon sinks compared to terrestrial tropical forests and release more carbon than they sequester.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

85. The Nilgiri Tahr, an endangered mountain ungulate, is the state animal of Tamil Nadu. Which of the following National Parks is most famous for hosting its largest surviving population?
(A) Bandipur National Park
(B) Eravikulam National Park
(C) Silent Valley National Park
(D) Nagarhole National Park

86. Which of the following statements concerning Marine National Parks in India is incorrect?
(A) The Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park was the first marine national park in India.
(B) Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park is located in the Andaman Islands.
(C) The Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park is situated off the coast of Gujarat.
(D) Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary in Odisha is famous for mass nesting of Olive Ridley sea turtles.

87. Established to protect the endangered Bengal tiger, which was the very first National Park officially declared in India?
(A) Kanha National Park
(B) Kaziranga National Park
(C) Ranthambore National Park
(D) Jim Corbett National Park

88. Conservation strategies are broadly divided into 'in-situ' and 'ex-situ' methods. Which of the following best represents the concept of in-situ conservation?
(A) Protecting a species within its natural habitat.
(B) Preserving the genetic germplasm material of an endangered plant in a controlled seed bank facility.
(C) Breeding a threatened or endangered animal species in a designated ex-situ zoological park.
(D) Relocating a vulnerable plant species to a specialized botanical garden for research study.

89. Select the odd one out from the following list of conservation facilities based on whether they represent in-situ or ex-situ conservation:
(A) Biosphere Reserve
(B) Zoological Park
(C) Wildlife Sanctuary
(D) Community Reserve

90. As of late 2023, following the official notification of the Dholpur-Karauli reserve, what is the total number of approved Tiger Reserves in the state of Rajasthan?
(A) Three

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(B) Four
(C) Five
(D) Six

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ANSWERS

1. (A) The Gangetic Plains
India hosts four globally recognized biodiversity hotspots: the Himalayas, the Western Ghats, the Indo-Burma region, and Sundaland. These regions feature high species richness and endemism under severe habitat threat. In contrast, the fertile Gangetic Plains consist predominantly of agricultural land and alluvial floodplains, lacking the extreme endemic species density required for hotspot classification.

2. (C) 70 percent
To qualify as a global biodiversity hotspot, a geographical region must satisfy two primary quantitative criteria defined by Conservation International. First, it must contain at least 1,500 species of vascular plants as endemics. Second, it must have lost at least 70 percent of its primary native vegetation, meaning it retains 30 percent or less of its original natural habitat.

3. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Western Ghats mountain range running parallel to India's western coast is recognized globally as a biodiversity hotspot. This designation stems directly from its remarkable concentration of endemic flora and fauna alongside exceptional species richness. However, rapid anthropogenic expansion, deforestation, and habitat fragmentation severely threaten this fragile ecosystem, validating both statements and establishing a direct cause-and-effect relationship between them.

4. (D) No human activity is allowed inside a National Park, whereas limited rights like grazing may be permitted in a Wildlife Sanctuary.
Under the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972, National Parks enjoy a stricter level of legal protection compared to Wildlife Sanctuaries. Inside a National Park, no human exploitation, habitat destruction, or traditional livestock grazing is permitted whatsoever. Conversely, in a Wildlife Sanctuary, the Chief Wildlife Warden may sanction certain limited human activities and traditional rights, such as controlled livestock grazing.

5. (B) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Eravikulam National Park is situated in the Idukki district of Kerala, famous for the endangered Nilgiri Tahr. Valmiki National Park serves as the sole national park in Bihar. Betla National Park represents a major protected tiger habitat in Jharkhand. Keibul Lamjao National Park is located on Loktak Lake in Manipur, renowned globally as the world's only floating national park.

6. (C) State Governments can declare an area as a Wildlife Sanctuary by notification if it is of adequate ecological significance.
According to Section 18 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, State Governments possess the statutory authority to declare any area as a Wildlife Sanctuary by official notification. The area must hold adequate ecological, faunal, floral, geomorphological, or zoological significance for protecting or developing wildlife. Furthermore, a Wildlife Sanctuary can be upgraded to a National Park, but not vice versa.

7. (D) Livestock grazing by local communities
Under the provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, National Parks prohibit all forms of human exploitation and traditional resource use, including livestock grazing. In contrast, Section 24 of the Act allows the Chief Wildlife Warden to permit regulated livestock grazing within a Wildlife Sanctuary if it does not harm the wildlife population or destroy essential natural habitats.

8. (B) II and III only
National Parks enforce complete statutory protection with zero permitted human extraction, providing higher protection than Wildlife Sanctuaries. Conservation Reserves, introduced under the 2002 Wildlife Protection Amendment, serve as crucial buffer zones and migratory corridors connecting protected areas. However, Biosphere Reserves are administrative designations under UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere programme rather than legal entities notified directly under Indian wildlife law.

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9. (B) Desert National Park
Spanning over 3,162 square kilometers across Jaisalmer and Barmer districts, Desert National Park is the largest protected area in Rajasthan. It preserves the unique Thar Desert ecosystem, characterized by sand dunes, craggy rocks, and sparse vegetation. Most importantly, it serves as the primary sanctuary and critical stronghold for the critically endangered Great Indian Bustard.

10. (B) Core Zone
A Biosphere Reserve comprises three distinct spatial zones: core, buffer, and transition. The innermost core zone contains pristine ecosystem habitat that is strictly protected by law under existing wildlife legislation. Human entry and activities are completely banned inside this zone, except for non-destructive scientific research, ecological monitoring, and conservation activities authorized by competent management authorities.

11. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
Project Tiger was officially launched in April 1973 from Jim Corbett National Park as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to conserve Bengal tigers. The National Tiger Conservation Authority was established in 2006 as a statutory body under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, rather than the Environment Protection Act, 1986, rendering the second statement legally inaccurate.

12. (A) II, III, I
UNESCO Biosphere Reserves are designed with a concentric three-tier spatial zonal structure. The innermost zone is the legally protected Core Zone, dedicated solely to nature conservation. Encircling the core is the Buffer Zone, designated for compatible activities like eco-tourism and educational research. The outermost spatial tier is the Transition Zone, where sustainable human settlements occur.

13. (D) Ranthambore and Mukundra Hills
Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan occupies a vital ecological location along the Vindhyan and Aravalli mountain formations. It serves as a natural wildlife movement corridor connecting Ranthambore Tiger Reserve in Sawai Madhopur with Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve in Kota. This connectivity ensures genetic exchange, dispersal, and habitat continuity for wild tiger populations across the region.

14. (C) Bundi
Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve is primarily situated in the Bundi district of Rajasthan, with adjacent buffer areas extending into Bhilwara and Kota districts. Designated as India's 52nd Tiger Reserve in May 2022, it encompasses diverse dry deciduous forests, rocky gorges, and scrublands, providing essential habitat for tigers, leopards, and varied ungulate species.

15. (A) I, II, III, IV
Ranthambore was declared a Tiger Reserve in 1973 during Project Tiger's launch. Sariska was designated as a Tiger Reserve in 1978. Mukundra Hills received its official notification in 2013 to protect tigers in southeastern Rajasthan. Dholpur-Karauli became Rajasthan's fifth notified Tiger Reserve in 2023, establishing the accurate chronological order from earliest to latest.

16. (B) 1992
Project Elephant was launched by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in February 1992 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. It provides financial and technical assistance to elephant-bearing states across India. The project aims to ensure long-term survival of Asian elephants, secure natural migration corridors, prevent human-elephant conflicts, and combat illegal poaching.

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17. (A) Elephants
The Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants programme is an international initiative established by CITES resolution during COP-10 in 1997. It tracks poaching levels, measures trends in illegal elephant killings, and monitors illegal ivory trade across elephant range states in Asia and Africa. India has designated ten official sites under this international tracking framework.

18. (C) UNESCO
The Man and the Biosphere Programme is an intergovernmental scientific initiative established by UNESCO in 1971. Its core objective is to foster a scientific basis for enhancing relationships between people and their environment. The programme integrates ecological research, conservation of biodiversity, and sustainable economic development through a globally recognized network of Biosphere Reserves.

19. (A) Brahmaputra
Kaziranga National Park is located along the southern banks of the Brahmaputra River in Assam. The park's landscape is shaped by annual monsoon floodings from the Brahmaputra and its tributaries, such as the Diphlu and Mora Diphlu. These seasonal river floods replenish alluvial soil, maintain fertile grasslands, and sustain diverse wetland ecosystems across the park.

20. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The All India Tiger Estimation methodology shifted from traditional pugmark counts to advanced camera trapping, spatial capture-recapture models, and non-invasive DNA scat profiling. The older pugmark technique was highly subjective, prone to double-counting, and inaccurate in rocky or hard terrains. Advanced technological methods overcome these limitations, providing reliable individual identification and validating the methodological transition.

21. (B) One-horned Rhinoceros
Kaziranga National Park in Assam holds the world's largest concentration of the Indian Great One-horned Rhinoceros, conserving approximately two-thirds of its global population. Thanks to dedicated anti-poaching measures and habitat management, the park has successfully recovered this iconic megaherbivore species from near extinction, establishing Kaziranga as an internationally celebrated flagship sanctuary for rhinoceros conservation.

22. (C) III only
Kaziranga National Park was declared a UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site in 1985 due to its unique ecological features. It is intersected by four major rivers, including the Brahmaputra, Diphlu, Mora Diphlu, and Mora Dhansiri. However, Kaziranga is situated in the Golaghat, Nagaon, and Karbi Anglong districts of Assam, not West Bengal.

23. (D) Hailey National Park
Established in 1936 to protect the declining Bengal tiger population, Jim Corbett National Park is India's oldest national park. It was originally named Hailey National Park after Sir Malcolm Hailey, the Governor of the United Provinces. Post-independence, it was renamed Ramganga National Park in 1954, before being renamed in 1956 after hunter-turned-conservationist Jim Corbett.

24. (A) Ramganga
The Ramganga River is the primary perennial river flowing through Jim Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand. Originating in the Dudhatoli ranges of the Outer Himalayas, the river bisects the park and creates the picturesque Patli Dun valley. It provides essential freshwater, nourishes lush riverine vegetation, and sustains diverse aquatic and terrestrial wildlife throughout the reserve.

25. (B) Mangrove
Sundarbans National Park derives its name from Heritiera fomes, locally known as the Sundari tree. This mangrove tree species dominates the tidal halophytic mangrove forests across the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna delta. Mangroves are uniquely adapted to intertidal zones, feature aerial stilt roots, and tolerate fluctuating salinity levels while providing critical coastal protection against storm erosion.

26. (B) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
Gir Forest National Park in Gujarat protects the world's last wild Asiatic Lions. Dachigam National Park in Jammu and Kashmir is the last habitat of the Hangul or Kashmir Stag. Keibul Lamjao National Park in Manipur protects the endangered Sangai brow-antlered deer. Hemis National Park in Ladakh is famous as a high-altitude stronghold for Snow Leopards.

27. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary, located in the Kathiawar peninsula of Gujarat, constitutes the single natural wilderness habitat on Earth where Asiatic lions survive in the wild. The dry deciduous teak forests and thorn scrublands of the Kathiawar region provide ideal environmental conditions, ecological prey bases, and protected terrain for this lion subspecies.

28. (C) Kuno National Park
To safeguard the endangered Asiatic lion population against potential extinction driven by localized epidemics, canine distemper outbreaks, or natural disasters in Gir, Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh was identified as the secondary reintroduction sanctuary. Its ecological conditions, prey density, and broad

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forest landscape were specifically evaluated and developed to host a translocated lion herd.

29. (D) It is covered mainly by alpine meadows and coniferous forests.
Jim Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand was the first protected area brought under Project Tiger in 1973. Spanning the Nainital and Pauri Garhwal districts along the Patli Dun valley, its vegetation consists primarily of sub-Himalayan tropical moist and dry deciduous sal forests, grasslands, and riverine belts, rather than high-altitude alpine meadows and coniferous ecosystems.

30. (C) Pin Valley National Park
Rajaji National Park, Valley of Flowers National Park, and Nanda Devi National Park are all geographically located within the northern state of Uttarakhand. Conversely, Pin Valley National Park is located in the Lahaul and Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh, making it the geographic outlier among the listed high-altitude and Himalayan protected regions.

31. (B) Madhya Pradesh
Bandhavgarh National Park is situated in the Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh. Renowned for its exceptionally high density of wild Bengal tigers, the park encompasses dry deciduous forests, sal woodlands, and grasslands framed by the Vindhyan hills. Historically, the surrounding region of Rewa was where the famous white tigers were first captured.

32. (D) Bandhavgarh National Park
Bandhavgarh National Park was established in 1968 in the Vindhya hill range of Madhya Pradesh. The center of the core area features an ancient hill crowned by the historical Bandhavgarh Fort. The park holds ecological connection to the Rewa princely region, famous for white tigers, and maintains an exceptionally high wild Bengal tiger population density.

33. (A) Iran
The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for wetland conservation. It was adopted on February 2, 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar, located along the southern shores of the Caspian Sea, coming into force globally in 1975.

34. (C) Keoladeo and Sambhar Lakes
Rajasthan contains two officially designated Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance: Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur and Sambhar Salt Lake spanning Jaipur, Nagaur, and Ajmer districts. Keoladeo was designated in 1981 as a man-made wetland supporting migratory waterfowl, while Sambhar Lake was declared in 1990 as India's largest inland saline lake ecosystem.

35. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Montreux Record is a register of Ramsar wetland sites undergoing ecological degradation due to human activity or technological changes. Keoladeo National Park in Rajasthan was placed on the Montreux Record in 1990 owing to water shortages, siltation, and invasive species infestation, making the reason a direct explanation of the assertion statement.

36. (D) Dal Lake
Chilika Lake in Odisha, Loktak Lake in Manipur, and Wular Lake in Jammu and Kashmir are all internationally recognized Ramsar Wetland Sites in India. Although Dal Lake in Srinagar is an urban water body of high ecological significance, it has not been officially designated as a Ramsar Wetland Site under the treaty framework.

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37. (B) Nilgiri
Established in 1986, the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve was the very first Biosphere Reserve created in India. Spanning across Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka in the Western Ghats, it encompasses protected areas like Mudumalai, Bandipur, Nagarhole, Silent Valley, and Wyanad. In 2000, it was formally added to UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves.

38. (A) Cold Desert > Nanda Devi > Pachmarhi > Agasthyamalai
Tracing India's Biosphere Reserves from North to South, Cold Desert in Himachal Pradesh lies highest in latitude. Moving southward, Nanda Devi is situated in Uttarakhand, followed by Pachmarhi located in central Madhya Pradesh. Finally, Agasthyamalai sits near the southernmost tip of the Western Ghats across Tamil Nadu and Kerala, completing the spatial order.

39. (D) The entire region lies exclusively within India.
The Sundarbans mangrove forest represents the world's largest contiguous mangrove ecosystem and the only mangrove habitat hosting Bengal tigers. However, the region does not lie exclusively in India; approximately 60 percent of the Sundarbans forest extends into neighboring Bangladesh, while remaining 40 percent lies within West Bengal in eastern India.

40. (A) To balance biodiversity conservation with local economic development.
Unlike National Parks, which emphasize strict preservation by completely excluding human settlement and traditional resource extraction, Biosphere Reserves focus on sustainable development. Their primary objective under UNESCO's framework is to harmonize ecological biodiversity conservation with sustainable socio-economic development, actively integrating local indigenous communities into management through zoned protection, educational research, and sustainable resource use.

41. (D) More than 200 cm
Tropical Evergreen Forests thrive in warm, humid regions that receive abundant annual precipitation exceeding 200 centimeters, accompanied by a short dry season and mean annual temperatures above 22 degrees Celsius. These highly favorable climatic conditions foster extremely dense vegetation, tall tree canopies, and continuous green foliage throughout the entire year across tropical belts.

42. (C) I and III only
Tropical Evergreen Forests develop in heavy rainfall zones exceeding 200 cm annually. In India, such climatic conditions occur naturally along the windward western slopes of the Western Ghats and the hilly terrain of northeastern states like Assam, Meghalaya, and Nagaland. Conversely, Rajasthan's semi-arid plateau receives low precipitation, supporting thorn scrub rather than evergreen forests.

43. (A) Tropical Deciduous Forests
Tropical Deciduous Forests, popularly known as Monsoon Forests, constitute the most widespread forest type across India, covering over 60 percent of the total forest land. These forests thrive in areas receiving between 70 cm and 200 cm of annual rainfall, shedding their leaves for six to eight weeks during dry summer seasons.

44. (C) Tropical Moist Deciduous Forests
Tropical Moist Deciduous Forests occur in regions receiving annual rainfall between 100 cm and 200 cm, such as the northeastern states, Himalayan foothills, and eastern slopes of the Western Ghats. Highly valuable hardwood timber species including Teak, Sal, Shisham, Sandalwood, and Mahua dominate this forest ecosystem, shedding leaves seasonally to conserve moisture.

45. (D) Dry Deciduous Forest
Anogeissus pendula, locally named Dhok or Dhokda, is a characteristic tree species dominating the dry deciduous forest landscape of Rajasthan. These trees cover extensive areas along the gentle slopes of the Aravalli and Vindhyan ranges, flourishing in semi-arid conditions receiving moderate rainfall and shedding foliage completely during summer months to survive drought.

46. (C) The Himalayas
Coniferous Montane Forests in India are found naturally in the Himalayan region at altitudes between 1,500 and 3,300 meters. These temperate high-altitude forests consist of evergreen gymnosperm species with cone-bearing reproduction and needle-like leaves, such as Pine, Deodar, Silver Fir, Spruce, and Cedar, adapted to survive cold climatic conditions and snow.

47. (B) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
Mahogany and Rosewood characterize high-rainfall Tropical Evergreen Forests. Teak and Sal represent commercially important Tropical Moist Deciduous vegetation. Acacia and Babool are xerophytic spiny species typical of arid Tropical Thorn Forests. Pine and Deodar are cone-bearing needle-leaved gymnosperms that naturally dominate high-altitude Montane Coniferous forest regions across the Himalayan landscape.

48. (D) The forest floor receives abundant sunlight due to the sparse canopy.
Tropical Evergreen Forests feature tall, dense, multi-layered foliage canopies reaching heights of 60 meters or more. Because these broad overlapping tree crowns form an almost impenetrable continuous roof, very little direct

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sunlight reaches the forest floor. Consequently, the forest floor remains dark, highly humid, and supports specialized shade-tolerant vegetation and epiphytic growth.

49. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
Tropical Deciduous Forests are categorized into moist and dry types based on precipitation. Moist deciduous forests flourish in regions receiving 100 to 200 cm of annual rainfall. Dry deciduous forests grow in regions receiving 70 to 100 cm of rainfall, gradually transitioning into xerophytic thorn forests where annual rainfall drops below 70 cm.

50. (C) Ebony
Spruce, Fir, and Cedar (Deodar) are gymnosperm coniferous tree species naturally inhabitant of temperate Montane Himalayan forests. In contrast, Ebony is a dense, dark hardwood broadleaved tree species characteristic of Tropical Evergreen Forests found in warm, high-rainfall lowland ecosystems, making it ecologically distinct from the other three high-altitude coniferous species.

51. (B) Biennially
The India State of Forest Report is a comprehensive assessment of India's forest cover, tree cover, mangrove vegetation, and growing stock. It is published biennially (every two years) by the Forest Survey of India, an organization under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, using remote sensing satellite data and field inventory checks.

52. (A) II, I, IV, III
According to the India State of Forest Report 2021, Madhya Pradesh possesses the largest total forest cover area in the country at 77,493 sq km. Arunachal Pradesh follows second with 66,431 sq km, Chhattisgarh ranks third with 55,717 sq km, and Odisha ranks fourth with 52,156 sq km, establishing the correct descending sequence.

53. (B) I and II only
Per ISFR 2021, Udaipur holds the maximum forest cover in Rajasthan by area, while Churu records the lowest forest cover. However, Rajasthan's recorded forest area accounts for roughly 9.6 percent of its total geographical area, not 33 percent, and Open Forest forms the largest proportion of state forest cover rather than Very Dense Forest.

54. (C) Four
The Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2022 streamlined the previous six schedules into four simplified schedules. Schedule I protects species with the highest conservation priority, Schedule II covers species with lesser protection, Schedule III is dedicated to protected plant species, and Schedule IV explicitly incorporates CITES-listed international specimens to enhance illegal trade enforcement.

55. (D) If the animal has become dangerous to human life or is disabled beyond recovery.
Under Sections 11 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, hunting wild animals in Schedules is strictly prohibited. However, the Chief Wildlife Warden may grant written permission to hunt or destroy a specified wild animal if satisfied that it has become dangerous to human life or is diseased or disabled beyond recovery.

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56. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 grants strict legal protection to endangered species like tigers, lions, and blackbucks. Violations involving Schedule I animals attract the highest mandatory imprisonment terms and maximum statutory financial penalties, directly confirming why this schedule represents the absolute highest protection tier under Indian environmental law.

57. (B) Blackbuck
The Bishnoi community of Rajasthan is famous worldwide for its deep-rooted cultural principles regarding nature conservation. They protect the Blackbuck (Antilope cervicapra), an antelope species listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. Bishnois treat blackbucks with sacred reverence, actively defending them against hunters and poachers across Western Rajasthan.

58. (B) Madhya Pradesh — Highest percentage among all states
Madhya Pradesh possesses the largest forest cover by total geographic area in India, but Mizoram holds the highest percentage of forest cover relative to its total geographical area at over 84 percent. Thus, associating Madhya Pradesh with

the highest percentage of forest cover represents an incorrect geographical pairing among Indian states.

59. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
The National Board for Wildlife is an apex statutory body constituted under Section 5A of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. However, it is chaired ex-officio by the Prime Minister of India, not the Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (who serves as Vice-Chairperson), making statement II legally inaccurate.

60. (C) 33 percent
The National Forest Policy of 1988 targets a minimum of 33 percent of India's total geographical area to be maintained under forest and tree cover for ecological balance. In mountainous and hilly regions, the policy recommends maintaining 67 percent forest cover to prevent soil erosion, land degradation, and landsliding hazards.

61. (D) International Union for Conservation of Nature
The Red Data Book is compiled and published by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Established in 1964, the Red List documents globally threatened species of plants, animals, and fungi, categorizing their risk of extinction based on population size, rate of decline, distribution range, and habitat fragmentation levels worldwide.

62. (D) I, II, and III
All three listed avian species—the Great Indian Bustard, Jerdon's Courser, and the Indian Vulture—are classified as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List. They face extreme imminent risks of global extinction in the wild due to habitat destruction, powerline collisions, human disturbances, and diclofenac-induced toxicity across their habitats.

63. (B) Collisions with overhead power lines
The Great Indian Bustard, state bird of Rajasthan, suffers high mortality from collisions with high-voltage overhead power transmission lines across the Thar Desert. Due to narrow lateral vision and heavy body weight, these birds fail to detect powerlines in advance while flying, making electrocution and collision the primary threat to their survival.

64. (D) Habitat fragmentation and loss of elephant corridors
Human-elephant conflict in India stems primarily from habitat loss, degradation, and severe fragmentation of traditional elephant migratory corridors. As linear infrastructure projects, mining, and agricultural expansion encroach upon natural forests, wild elephant herds are forced to navigate through human settlements, destroying crops and causing fatal interactions with local human populations.

65. (B) Vulnerable > Endangered > Critically Endangered > Extinct in the Wild
The IUCN Red List categorizes species threatened with global extinction in increasing order of risk severity. 'Vulnerable' indicates a high risk of extinction, 'Endangered' signifies a very high risk of extinction, 'Critically Endangered' represents an extremely high risk of immediate extinction, and 'Extinct in the Wild' denotes survival exclusively in captivity.

66. (C) Dehradun
The Wildlife Institute of India is located in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. Established in 1982, WII operates as an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, carrying out wildlife research, scientific capacity building, and training programs for forest officers and wildlife conservation professionals across South Asia.

67. (A) To conduct research and training in wildlife conservation and management.
The primary mandate of the Wildlife Institute of India is to carry out scientific research, academic education, and professional training in wildlife conservation, ecology, and sanctuary management. It advises governments on policy formulation, conducts biodiversity impact assessments, and trains wildlife managers to foster scientific wildlife management practices across all India.

68. (D) Wild Boar
Snow Leopard, Pangolin, and Wild Water Buffalo are threatened species protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act and listed in threatened categories on the IUCN Red List. In contrast, Wild Boar is an abundant

species with a high reproduction rate, lacking high threatened extinction status in India.

69. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
Constructing linear infrastructure like highways and railways through forest reserves fragments habitats, restricts animal movement, and causes vehicle collisions with wildlife. Mitigating these impacts requires constructing eco-bridges, canopy walkways, and animal underpasses, which allow wildlife to move safely across transport corridors without human interference or direct road mortality risks.

70. (C) It falls under the administrative control of the Ministry of Science and Technology.
Established in 1982 in Dehradun, the Wildlife Institute of India operates as an autonomous institution. However, it functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, not the Ministry of Science and Technology. It offers academic courses, wildlife research, and management advice to environmental authorities.

71. (D) Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority
CAMPA stands for Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority. Established following Supreme Court orders and formalized under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act of 2016, CAMPA manages funds collected from user agencies when forest land is diverted for non-forest industrial or infrastructure projects to ensure compensatory tree plantation restoration efforts.

72. (A) When diverting forest land for non-forest industrial or mining purposes.
Under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and CAMPA guidelines, whenever forest land is diverted for non-forest activities like industrial development, mining, or dam construction, project proponents must legally deposit money into the CAMPA fund. These funds cover net present value, compensatory afforestation costs, and environmental mitigation project expenses.

73. (B) Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CITES stands for Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. Adopted in 1973 and entering into force in 1975, CITES is an international agreement between member governments to ensure that cross-border commercial trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

74. (A) I, II, and III only
CITES categorizes species into three Appendices. Appendix I prohibits commercial trade in endangered species. Appendix II regulates trade in non-threatened species to prevent overexploitation. Appendix III contains species protected in a country requesting international assistance. India joined CITES in 1976, making the fourth statement incorrect while confirming the first three statements.

75. (A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
Sita Mata Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Pratapgarh district, famous for flying squirrels. Tal Chhapar Sanctuary in Churu district is renowned for its blackbuck population and migratory raptors. Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Sirohi district. Bandh Baretha Sanctuary is located in Bharatpur district, serving as a rich avian habitat.

76. (C) Manas National Park — Assam
Manas National Park is correctly matched with Assam. Situated in the Himalayan foothills of western Assam, Manas is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Project Tiger reserve, and Elephant reserve. Conversely, Periyar is in Kerala, Namdapha is in Arunachal Pradesh, and Similipal is in Odisha, making the other options geographically mismatched.

77. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 established National and State Compensatory Afforestation Funds. Under the provisions of the Act, 90 percent of the collected funds are transferred to the respective State Compensatory Afforestation Funds, while only 10 percent is retained in the National Fund, rendering the distribution ratio in Statement II incorrect.

78. (C) Washington Convention
The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora is informally known as the Washington Convention. It was drafted following an IUCN member resolution in 1963 and formally signed

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by representatives of 80 countries in Washington, D.C., on March 3, 1973, entering into force in July 1975.

79. (B) The Flying Squirrel
Sita Mata Wildlife Sanctuary in Pratapgarh district of Rajasthan is famous for hosting the nocturnal Indian Giant Flying Squirrel (Petaurista philippensis). The sanctuary's dense dry deciduous teak forests, rich canopy cover, and diverse flora offer an ideal habitat for these arboreal mammals, which glide between forest tree crowns using membrane flaps.

80. (D) Payment of regular salaries to forest department staff
CAMPA funds are legally restricted to forestry, afforestation, soil conservation, and ecosystem regeneration activities to offset forest loss. Under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018, these funds cannot be utilized for routine recurring administrative expenses of state governments, such as paying regular salaries or pensions to forest department staff members.

81. (A) Habitats with highly saline soil and brackish water
Halophytic plants are specially adapted vegetation that survive and flourish in saline environments, such as coastal mudflats, estuaries, and mangrove swamps. They possess specialized physiological adaptations, including salt-filtering root membranes, salt-excreting leaves, and succulent tissues that manage high osmotic pressure caused by elevated soil and water salinity concentrations.

82. (C) West Bengal
According to the India State of Forest Report 2021, West Bengal has the largest mangrove forest cover in India, accounting for over 42 percent of the nation's total mangrove area. This vast cover is dominated by the Sundarbans mangrove forest, followed by Gujarat and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in total coverage.

83. (A) To absorb atmospheric oxygen in waterlogged soils.
Pneumatophores are specialized erect, pencil-like specialized roots that grow upwards above saline water or mud in waterlogged intertidal soils where oxygen is severely depleted. Featuring small pores called lenticels, these breathing roots absorb atmospheric oxygen and transport it directly to underground root systems, enabling normal cellular respiration in submerged mangrove plants.

84. (C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
Mangroves dissipate wave energy, protecting coastlines from storm surges, erosion, and tsunamis. Furthermore, mangroves serve as exceptional blue carbon sinks, capturing and storing up to four times more carbon per hectare than terrestrial tropical forests in deep anaerobic soils, which makes Statement II scientifically incorrect regarding global carbon sequestration capacity.

85. (B) Eravikulam National Park
Eravikulam National Park in the Idukki district of Kerala holds the largest surviving wild population of the endangered Nilgiri Tahr (Nilgiritragus hylocrius). The park's shola-grassland ecosystem in the High Ranges of the Western Ghats provides ideal montane terrain, high-altitude grazing habitat, and breeding conditions for this endemic wild mountain goat.

86. (C) The Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park is situated off the coast of Gujarat.
The Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park is situated off the southeastern coast of Tamil Nadu in the Indian Ocean, not off the coast of Gujarat. The Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat was India's first marine national park, while Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park lies in Andaman and Gahirmatha in Odisha protects turtles.

87. (D) Jim Corbett National Park
Jim Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand was established in 1936 as Hailey National Park, making it India's very first national park. It was created to protect endangered species, particularly the Bengal tiger, and later became the landmark inauguration site for Project Tiger in 1973, establishing modern national wildlife protection efforts.

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88. (A) Protecting a species within its natural habitat.
In-situ conservation refers to the conservation of genetic resources and biological species within their natural ecosystems and surrounding habitats. This strategy permits natural evolutionary processes, ecological interactions, and population adaptation to continue

unhindered within protected areas like National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, and designated natural community reserve forests.

89. (B) Zoological Park
Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife Sanctuaries, and Community Reserves are examples of in-situ conservation, where species are protected within their natural ecosystems. Conversely, a Zoological Park is an ex-situ conservation facility where wild animals are kept outside their natural habitat in artificial enclosures for captive breeding, public education, and ongoing scientific research.

90. (C) Five
As of late 2023, Rajasthan features five approved Tiger Reserves: Ranthambore (1973), Sariska (1978), Mukundra Hills (2013), Ramgarh Vishdhari (2022), and Dholpur-Karauli, which received official approval as Rajasthan's fifth reserve in August 2023. These reserves form an interconnected network protecting Bengal tiger populations across Eastern and Southern regions of Rajasthan.

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CHAPTER 05
Major Crops of India

1. How many agro-climatic zones has the Planning Commission of India broadly classified the country into for agricultural planning?
(A) 10
(B) 15
(C) 20
(D) 12

2. Under the National Agricultural Research Project (NARP) guidelines, into how many agro-climatic zones has Rajasthan been divided to formulate location-specific strategies?
(A) 5
(B) 15
(C) 10
(D) 14

3. Which of the following agro-climatic regions of India is characterised by lowest annual rainfall, high summer temperatures, and predominantly features the cultivation of Bajra, Guar, and Moth?
(A) Trans-Gangetic Plain Region
(B) Central Plateau and Hills Region
(C) Western Dry Region
(D) Eastern Himalayan Region

4. Consider the following statements regarding the agro-climatic zones of India:
I. The Planning Commission's classification is primarily based on soil type, rainfall, temperature, and water resources.
II. Rajasthan falls completely under a single agro-climatic zone.
III. The Western Dry Region predominantly covers western Rajasthan.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

5. What are the ideal temperature and rainfall conditions required for the optimal cultivation of wheat in India?
(A) 10-15°C during growing season and 50-75 cm rainfall
(B) 21-27°C during growing season and 100-150 cm rainfall
(C) 20-25°C during growing season and 150-200 cm rainfall
(D) 15-20°C during growing season and less than 30 cm rainfall

6. Which region in India is traditionally known as the 'Wheat Bowl' due to its high production and productivity of the crop?
(A) The Krishna-Godavari Delta
(B) The Punjab-Haryana plains
(C) The Malwa Plateau
(D) The Brahmaputra Valley

7. In the context of Rajasthan, which districts are the major producers of wheat due to the availability of canal irrigation?
(A) The arid districts of Jaisalmer and Barmer
(B) The southern districts of Banswara and Dungarpur
(C) The dry central districts of Churu and Jodhpur
(D) Sri Ganganagar and Hanumangarh districts

8. Consider the following statements regarding wheat cultivation in India:
I. It requires 50-75 cm of annual rainfall evenly distributed over the growing season.
II. Bright sunshine at the time of ripening is essential for a good yield.
III. Severe frost during the flowering stage is highly beneficial for the wheat crop.
IV. It is primarily sown during the onset of the southwest monsoon.
Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II
(B) III and IV
(C) I, II and III
(D) II, III and IV

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9. In recent years, which state has consistently been the largest producer of wheat in India by total volume?
(A) Punjab
(B) Madhya Pradesh
(C) Uttar Pradesh
(D) Haryana

10. The Green Revolution in India was most spectacularly successful for which of the following pairs of crops?
(A) Wheat and Rice
(B) Cotton and Sugarcane
(C) Pulses and Oilseeds
(D) Tea and Coffee

11. Rice is a staple food crop of a majority of the people in India. Which type of crop is it primarily classified as?
(A) Rabi
(B) Zaid
(C) Plantation
(D) Kharif

12. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Rice is predominantly grown in coastal areas and the north-eastern plains of India.
Reason (R): Rice requires high temperature and high humidity with annual rainfall above 100 cm.
In the context of the above statements, select the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

13. In states like Assam, West Bengal, and Odisha, three crops of paddy are grown in a year. Which of the following is the correct set of names for these crops?
(A) Baisakh, Jeth, Asadh
(B) Vasant, Sharad, Hemant
(C) Aus, Aman, Boro
(D) Sali, Ahu, Bao

14. Which state is the largest producer of rice in India, despite a significant portion of its cultivated area being prone to cyclonic disturbances?
(A) Punjab
(B) Uttar Pradesh
(C) Andhra Pradesh
(D) West Bengal

15. Consider the following statements regarding rice production trends in India:
I. India is the largest exporter of rice in the world.
II. West Bengal has the highest total production of rice in India.
III. The per hectare yield (productivity) of rice is highest in the state of Odisha.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

16. What is the primary advantage of the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) over traditional transplanting methods?
(A) It requires flooded field conditions continuously throughout the crop cycle.
(B) It reduces water requirement and seed rate while improving crop yield.
(C) It demands significantly higher applications of synthetic chemical fertilizers.
(D) It is exclusively suitable for saline and waterlogged coastal soil conditions.

17. Cotton cultivation requires a specific number of frost-free days to ensure proper growth and boll formation. What is this ideal requirement?
(A) 100 days
(B) 150 days
(C) 210 days
(D) 300 days

18. Match List I with List II and select the correct option using the codes given below.
List I: (Crop)
P. Jute
Q. Groundnut
R. Sugarcane
S. Rubber
List II: (Major Producing State)
1. Uttar Pradesh
2. Kerala
3. West Bengal
4. Gujarat
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2

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(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

19. The regur soil of the Deccan trap is widely considered the most suitable for growing which of the following commercial crops?
(A) Tea
(B) Coffee
(C) Cotton
(D) Jute

20. Why is there a gradual shift and concentration of the sugarcane industry from North India to South and West India?
(A) North India faces severe government restrictions and bans on sugarcane cultivation due to water scarcity.
(B) Sugarcane crops cannot tolerate the highly alkaline and saline soil conditions of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.
(C) Only South Indian state governments provide guaranteed minimum support prices and subsidies for sugarcane.
(D) Peninsular India produces sugarcane with higher sucrose content and has a longer crushing season.

21. Which of the following conditions is NOT suitable for the cultivation of sugarcane?
(A) Tropical hot and humid climatic conditions during growth
(B) Average temperature range between 21°C and 27°C
(C) Severe frost during the crop ripening stage
(D) Well-distributed annual rainfall between 75 cm and 100 cm

22. Consider the following statements regarding sugarcane cultivation in India:
I. It is both a tropical as well as a sub-tropical crop.
II. It requires a hot and humid climate with temperatures of 21°C to 27°C.
III. Uttar Pradesh is the largest producer of sugarcane in India.
IV. India is the largest producer of sugarcane in the world, ahead of Brazil.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III
(B) I, II and IV
(C) II, III and IV
(D) I, III and IV

23. Tea plants grow well in tropical and sub-tropical climates endowed with deep and fertile well-drained soil. Why are tea estates mostly located on hill slopes?
(A) High altitude increases the caffeine content in the leaves.
(B) Hill slopes prevent the growth of weeds automatically.
(C) Tea leaves require direct freezing temperatures for flavor development.
(D) Stagnant water is injurious to the tea roots.

24. Which of the following is a critical requirement for the optimal growth of tender tea leaves throughout the year?
(A) Frequent, evenly distributed showers
(B) Continuous dry spells of over 3 months
(C) High wind velocity during growing period
(D) Minimum temperature of 35°C year-round

25. Select the correct descending order of states in terms of total tea production in India.
(A) Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala
(B) West Bengal, Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu
(C) Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Assam, West Bengal
(D) Assam, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala

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26. The Baba Budan Hills are historically significant in India for the introduction and cultivation of which plantation crop?
(A) Coffee
(B) Tea
(C) Rubber
(D) Cardamom

27. Which variety of coffee, initially brought from Yemen, is primarily produced in India and is in high demand globally?
(A) Robusta
(B) Liberica
(C) Excelsa
(D) Arabica

28. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Coffee plantations in India are generally established under the canopy of large shade trees.
Reason (R): Shade trees protect the sensitive coffee plants from direct, intense sunlight and help maintain soil moisture.
In the context of the above statements, select the correct option:

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

29. The Kharif cropping season in India typically corresponds to which of the following periods?
(A) From October to March
(B) June to September
(C) From March to June
(D) From January to April

30. Identify the odd one out among the following crops based on their primary cropping season in North India.
(A) Jowar
(B) Bajra
(C) Tur (Arhar)
(D) Barley

31. Which of the following states is the largest producer of Bajra in India, owing to its high tolerance to arid conditions?
(A) Rajasthan
(B) Gujarat
(C) Maharashtra
(D) Uttar Pradesh

32. Winter rainfall in north-western India, which is highly beneficial for the Rabi crops, is caused by which meteorological phenomenon?
(A) Retreating Monsoon
(B) Western Disturbances
(C) Tropical Cyclones
(D) Local Thunderstorms (Loo)

33. Which of the following is exclusively a Rabi crop in the northern and north-western states of India?
(A) Maize
(B) Mustard
(C) Groundnut
(D) Soybean

34. Rabi crops are sown in winter from October to December. When are they typically harvested?
(A) January to February
(B) April to June
(C) July to August
(D) September to November

35. Match List I with List II and select the correct option using the codes given below.

List I: (Crop Category)
P. Kharif Food Crop
Q. Rabi Food Crop
R. Zaid Crop
S. Cash Crop
List II: (Example)
1. Watermelon
2. Sugarcane
3. Paddy
4. Wheat
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

36. A short season intervening between the Rabi and Kharif seasons is known as the Zaid season. Which of the following crops is NOT typically grown during Zaid?
(A) Muskmelon
(B) Cucumber
(C) Fodder crops
(D) Groundnut

37. Zaid crops heavily rely on which of the following water sources during their growth period in the summer months?
(A) Seasonal Southwest Monsoon rains
(B) Seasonal Retreating Monsoon rains
(C) Assured irrigation facilities
(D) Winter Western disturbances

38. Consider the following statements regarding the Green Revolution in India:
I. It was initiated in the 1960s with the introduction of High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds.
II. Dr. Verghese Kurien is known as the father of the Green Revolution in India.
III. Initially, its success was limited primarily to wheat and rice in states like Punjab and Haryana.
Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II only
(B) II only
(C) I and III only
(D) III only

39. Which of the following is widely regarded as a negative ecological consequence of the intensive farming practices introduced by the Green Revolution?
(A) Increased genetic diversity of indigenous

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crops
(B) Enhancement of soil organic carbon
(C) Reduction in the cost of cultivation for marginal farmers
(D) Depletion of groundwater tables

40. The 'Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India' (BGREI) initiative was launched to improve agricultural productivity in which region?
(A) Western Himalayan states like Himachal and Uttarakhand
(B) Coastal plains of Gujarat and Maharashtra states
(C) Bihar, Odisha, and West Bengal
(D) North-Western states like Punjab and Haryana

41. Which of the following represents the most accurate definition of a 'Cash Crop'?
(A) A crop grown exclusively for fulfilling the farmer's domestic food consumption.
(B) A crop grown organically without the use of chemical fertilizers or synthetic pesticides.
(C) A crop grown primarily for sale in the market to earn profit.
(D) A crop that is fully exempt from commercial taxation by the government.

42. Commercialisation of agriculture in India implies:
(A) Growing crops primarily for national and international markets.
(B) Shifting agricultural production from cash crops back to traditional food crops.
(C) Cultivating food crops primarily for self-consumption by the farmer's household.
(D) Transferring fertile agricultural land directly to the industrial sector.

43. Which of the following is a classic example of a crop that serves as a staple foodgrain in one region but operates as a commercial cash crop in another region within India?
(A) Tea cultivated in the northeastern hill regions
(B) Rubber grown in the southern tropical regions
(C) Jute produced in eastern deltaic plain regions
(D) Rice in regions like Punjab and Haryana

44. Drip irrigation is highly recommended for horticulture and wide-spaced crops in regions with severe water scarcity. What is its primary functional advantage?
(A) It applies water directly over the crop canopy like natural rainfall, washing away pests continuously.
(B) It delivers water directly to the root zone, reducing evaporation and runoff.
(C) It significantly increases soil salinity, which is highly beneficial for cash crop development.
(D) It requires extensive land levelling, flat land preparation, and total field flooding.

45. Consider the following statements regarding irrigation practices in India:
I. Micro-irrigation techniques drastically reduce water consumption compared to flood irrigation.
II. Sprinkler irrigation is ideal for sandy soils with high infiltration rates.
III. Canal irrigation is predominantly concentrated in the peninsular plateau region.
IV. In Rajasthan, groundwater extracted via tube wells and open wells constitutes the largest source of irrigation.
Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II
(B) III only
(C) II and IV
(D) I, III and IV

46. Under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), the component 'Per Drop More Crop' focuses primarily on:
(A) Construction and expansion of large multi-purpose river dams.
(B) Interlinking of major national and peninsular river systems.
(C) Providing subsidized or free electricity for tube well operation.
(D) Promoting drip and sprinkler micro-irrigation.

47. In the context of crop productivity, how is agricultural 'yield' defined?
(A) The production of a crop per unit area of land.
(B) The total net financial income generated by a farming household in a year.
(C) The overall total volume of a crop produced across an entire state or country.
(D) The numerical ratio of seeds sown relative to the total crop volume harvested.

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48. Arrange the following states in the correct descending order of their agricultural productivity (yield per hectare) for wheat:
1. Punjab
2. Uttar Pradesh
3. Madhya Pradesh

Select the correct option:
(A) 1, 2, 3
(B) 2, 1, 3
(C) 3, 2, 1
(D) 1, 3, 2

49. Which of the following statements best explains the distinction between total agricultural production and agricultural productivity?
(A) Production refers strictly to the total land area cultivated, while productivity refers to total rainfall received.
(B) Production is total crop harvested, whereas productivity is output per unit of land.
(C) Productivity is defined as total gross financial value, whereas production measures net physical crop weight.
(D) There is no functional distinction; both terms are used as perfect synonyms across agricultural economics.

50. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) in India is recommended by which of the following bodies?
(A) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)
(B) NITI Aayog
(C) Food Corporation of India (FCI)
(D) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

51. For how many mandated agricultural crops does the Government of India currently announce the Minimum Support Price (MSP) based on CACP recommendations?
(A) 15 mandated crops
(B) 22 mandated crops
(C) 35 mandated crops
(D) 10 mandated crops

52. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The cropping pattern in Punjab and Haryana is heavily skewed towards wheat and rice cultivation.
Reason (R): Assured procurement at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the government has strongly incentivised farmers to cultivate these specific crops.
In the context of the above statements, select the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

53. While MSP is announced for most crops, sugarcane pricing is governed by a different mechanism. What is the statutory minimum price fixed by the Central Government for sugarcane called?
(A) State Advised Price (SAP) mechanism
(B) Assured Procurement Price (APP) system
(C) Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP)
(D) Baseline Commercial Price (BCP) standard

54. What is the primary objective of the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) platform?
(A) To provide subsidized high-yield seeds and chemical fertilizers directly to marginal farmers.
(B) To network APMC mandis into a unified national agricultural market.
(C) To facilitate the direct export of surplus Indian agricultural produce to foreign markets.
(D) To regulate and standardize the retail pricing of tractors and modern agricultural machinery.

55. Agricultural marketing in India has traditionally been regulated by the state governments through the APMC Acts. What does APMC stand for?
(A) Agricultural Products Manufacturing Corporation
(B) Agro-Processing and Marketing Council
(C) Agrarian Pricing and Management Commission
(D) Agricultural Produce Market Committee

56. Which of the following is considered a major bottleneck in the traditional agricultural marketing system in India?
(A) A long chain of intermediaries reducing the farmer's share of consumer price.
(B) Widespread over-reliance on complex electronic trading platforms and online auction mechanisms.
(C) Excessive direct purchasing by urban end consumers directly at the farm gate level.

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(D) Complete absence of physical market yards and regulated storage infrastructure across states.

57. According to the Agriculture Census of India, the majority of landholdings in the country belong to which category?
(A) Large (10 hectares and above)
(B) Medium (4 to 10 hectares)
(C) Semi-medium (2 to 4 hectares)
(D) Marginal (less than 1 hectare)

58. How does the severe fragmentation of landholdings negatively impact Indian agriculture?
(A) It makes modern mechanisation and large-scale irrigation economically unviable.
(B) It leads to an over-concentration of fertile land in the hands of a few wealthy corporate farmers.
(C) It artificially inflates the export valuation and international pricing of essential food grains.
(D) It automatically transitions smallholder farmers into certified organic commercial agriculture.

59. Which of the following strategies is most frequently advocated by policymakers to overcome the challenges posed by the continuous fragmentation of agricultural land?
(A) Encouraging rapid urban migration among rural youth to leave fragmented land barren.
(B) Completely banning the legal division and inheritance of family agricultural property.
(C) Converting all marginal agricultural farms into industrial Special Economic Zones.
(D) Promoting cooperative farming and Farmer Producer Organisations.

60. Match List I with List II and select the correct option using the codes given below.
List I: (Pre-Monsoon Showers)
P. Mango showers
Q. Blossom showers
R. Norwesters (Kalbaishakhi)
S. Loo
List II: (Associated State/Benefit)
1. West Bengal (Harmful/Violent, yet aids Jute/Rice)
2. Kerala (Helps in early ripening of mangoes)
3. Karnataka (Beneficial for coffee flowers)
4. Northern Plains (Hot dry wind, generally harmful to crops if intense)
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(D) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4

61. Approximately what percentage of the net sown area in India remains rainfed and highly dependent on the southwest monsoon?
(A) 10-15%
(B) 25-30%
(C) 50-55%
(D) 80-85%

62. Which of the following climatic phenomena is generally associated with suppressed monsoon rainfall and consequent drought-like conditions for Indian agriculture?
(A) La Nina
(B) Indian Ocean Dipole (Positive phase)
(C) Madden-Julian Oscillation
(D) El Nino

63. Rajasthan holds a dominant position in the production of which of the following oilseed crops in India?
(A) Rapeseed and Mustard
(B) Groundnut (Peanut) crops
(C) Commercial Sunflower crops
(D) Coconut palm plantations

64. The 'Yellow Revolution' in the history of Indian agriculture is associated with a dramatic increase in the production of:
(A) Pulses crops
(B) Oilseeds
(C) Jute fibre
(D) Maize grain

65. Consider the following statements regarding oilseeds in India:
I. Groundnut is predominantly a Kharif crop.
II. Mustard is predominantly a Rabi crop.
III. India is the largest producer of oilseeds but still imports a significant amount of edible oil.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

66. Soybean has rapidly emerged as a major oilseed crop in India. Which state is traditionally known as the 'Soybean State' of India?
(A) Madhya Pradesh

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(B) State of Maharashtra
(C) State of Rajasthan
(D) State of Gujarat

67. Most pulses help in restoring soil fertility by fixing nitrogen from the air. Which of the following is an exception, usually grown without this primary nitrogen-fixing expectation during its active cropping period?
(A) Moong (Green Gram)
(B) Urad (Black Gram)
(C) Arhar (Tur)
(D) Masur (Lentil)

68. India's position in the global pulses economy is unique. Which of the following statements best describes this position?
(A) India is the largest producer but ranks as the smallest consumer of pulses globally.
(B) India relies entirely on foreign imports and produces virtually no pulses domestically.
(C) India is a marginal pulse producer but holds the title of largest global exporter.
(D) India is the largest producer, consumer, and importer of pulses.

69. Pulses are highly suitable for diverse climatic conditions. What makes them a preferred crop in regions with limited irrigation facilities?
(A) They require constant waterlogging and standing water.
(B) They are highly sensitive to direct sunlight exposure.
(C) They require less moisture and survive well in dry conditions.
(D) They can only be grown in highly saline coastal soil ecosystems.

70. Select the correct sequence of the top three pulse-producing states in India (in general recent trends).
(A) Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan
(B) Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana
(C) Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal
(D) Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka

71. The period of rapid growth in the production of horticultural crops (fruits, vegetables, spices, etc.) in India is termed as the:
(A) Silver Revolution
(B) Round Potato Revolution
(C) Pink Onion Revolution
(D) Golden Revolution

72. Horticulture has become a vital segment of Indian agriculture. Which of the following statements about Indian horticulture is accurate?
(A) Horticultural crops yield higher returns per unit area than staple food crops.
(B) India is the largest global producer of fruits and vegetables, comfortably surpassing China.
(C) The horticulture sector contributes less than 5% to the total agricultural GDP of India overall.
(D) Horticultural cultivation is exclusively restricted to the cold Himalayan mountain region.

73. Which state in India is traditionally the leading producer of spices, often referred to as the 'Spice Garden of India'?
(A) Assam
(B) Jammu & Kashmir
(C) Kerala
(D) Himachal Pradesh

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74. What is the full form of MIDH, a centrally sponsored scheme aimed at the holistic growth of the horticulture sector?
(A) Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture
(B) Management Initiative for Domestic Horticulture
(C) Ministry's Investment in Diversified Horticulture
(D) Mechanism for International Delivery of Horticulture

75. In agricultural production, West Bengal holds a near-monopoly or clear dominance in the production of which of the following natural fibres?
(A) Cotton
(B) Silk
(C) Coir
(D) Jute

76. Rajasthan contributes overwhelmingly (over 70%) to the national production of which of the following commercial crops, largely used in industrial gum production?
(A) Castor seed crops
(B) Guar
(C) Isabgol (Psyllium)
(D) Coriander seed crops

77. Which state leads in the production of coarse cereals like Sorghum (Jowar) in India?
(A) State of Punjab
(B) West Bengal
(C) Maharashtra
(D) State of Odisha

78. Consider the following combinations of crop and their leading producing state in India:
I. Soybean - Madhya Pradesh
II. Cotton - Gujarat
III. Bajra - Rajasthan
IV. Coffee - Karnataka
Which of the combinations given above is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III
(B) II, III and IV
(C) I, III and IV
(D) I, II, III and IV

79. The Government of India promotes organic farming through a dedicated scheme known as PKVY. What does PKVY stand for?
(A) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana
(B) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Vikas Yojana
(C) Purna Kisan Vridhi Yojana
(D) Panchayat Krishi Vyapar Yojana

80. Which state in India holds the distinction of being declared the first fully organic state in the world?
(A) Kerala
(B) Sikkim
(C) Uttarakhand
(D) Himachal Pradesh

81. In organic farming, which of the following is utilised to enhance soil fertility instead of synthetic chemical fertilizers?
(A) Synthetic chemical inputs like Urea and DAP
(B) Bio-fertilizers such as Rhizobium
(C) Laboratory-bred genetically modified microbes
(D) Broad-spectrum organochlorine chemical pesticides

82. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Organic farming often faces the challenge of lower crop yields per hectare during the initial transition period compared to conventional farming.
Reason (R): The soil takes time to recover its natural biological activity and fertility after the cessation of synthetic fertilizer usage.
In the context of the above statements, select the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

83. The term 'Cropping Intensity' in agriculture refers to:
(A) The overall numerical ratio of the total volume of irrigation water used to the total land area.
(B) The average total number of agricultural labourers employed per hectare of cultivated land.
(C) The ratio of Gross Cropped Area to Net Sown Area.
(D) The exact total quantity of chemical fertilizers applied per unit of agricultural crop produced.

84. 'Slash and burn' agriculture, a primitive form of subsistence farming, is known by different names in various regions. By what name is it known in the North-Eastern states of India?
(A) Milpa farming
(B) Podu cultivation
(C) Kumari system
(D) Jhumming

85. Match List I with List II and select the correct option using the codes given below.
List I: (Agricultural Revolution)
P. Blue Revolution
Q. White Revolution
R. Silver Revolution
S. Round Revolution
List II: (Associated Production)
1. Milk / Dairy
2. Fish / Aquaculture
3. Potato
4. Egg / Poultry
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

86. What is the fundamental difference between 'Mixed Farming' and 'Mixed Cropping'?

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(A) Mixed farming involves growing two crops simultaneously in alternating rows, while mixed cropping involves systematic seasonal rotation of crops.
(B) Mixed farming integrates crop production with livestock, while mixed cropping grows multiple crops together.
(C) Mixed farming is practiced exclusively on perennial irrigated lands, while mixed cropping is restricted entirely to rainfed dryland regions.
(D) There is no scientific difference between the two; both terms are used completely interchangeably across modern agricultural science.

87. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the structural features of Indian agriculture.
(A) Agriculture remains the primary and largest direct source of employment across the overall Indian economy.
(B) Indian agriculture remains heavily dependent on the seasonal southwest monsoons for crop irrigation.
(C) The average size of operational agricultural landholdings in India has been continuously declining over time.
(D) The share of agriculture in India's GVA has steadily increased over the last five decades.

88. Arrange the standard stages of agricultural marketing in the correct chronological order from farm to consumer:
1. Primary processing and grading
2. Harvesting and aggregation at the farm level
3. Transportation to secondary markets / APMC
4. Retailing to the final consumer

Select the correct option:
(A) 2, 1, 3, 4
(B) 1, 2, 4, 3
(C) 2, 3, 1, 4
(D) 3, 2, 1, 4

89. If a sudden, unseasonal heatwave severely raises temperatures in the month of March in northern India, which of the following crop stages is most directly and negatively impacted?
(A) The initial germination and seedling establishment stage of monsoon Kharif crops.
(B) The delicate flowering and early fruit-setting stage of the Zaid watermelon crop.
(C) The grain-filling stage of Rabi wheat, causing shriveled grains.
(D) The early transplantation and root establishment stage of summer paddy crops.

90. Which of the following bodies is responsible for the estimation of crop production and forecasting in India using the 'Crop Cutting Experiments' (CCE) methodology?
(A) Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES)
(B) National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics
(C) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi
(D) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Agricultural Division

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ANSWERS

1. (B) 15
The Planning Commission of India divided the country into fifteen broad agro-climatic zones based on regional factors such as rainfall, temperature, soil profile, water resources, and topography. This regionalisation approach was introduced during the Seventh Five-Year Plan in 1988 to formulate localized agricultural development strategies, optimize crop productivity, and address ecological diversity effectively across states.

2. (C) 10
Under the National Agricultural Research Project initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Rajasthan is divided into ten distinct sub-agro-climatic zones. This division accounts for significant variations in soil characteristics, rainfall patterns, water availability, and temperature ranges across the state, enabling agricultural scientists and policymakers to design location-specific farming techniques and cropping recommendations.

3. (C) Western Dry Region
The Western Dry Region covers nine arid districts of western Rajasthan, receiving less than thirty centimeters of annual precipitation. The region experiences extreme temperature conditions, low humidity, and sandy soils. Agriculture in this ecosystem relies heavily on drought-tolerant coarse cereals and pulses like pearl millet, cluster bean, and moth bean, which require minimal moisture for maturation.

4. (B) I and III only
National agro-climatic regionalization relies on parameters including rainfall, thermal regimes, soil types, and water availability. Rajasthan spans multiple zones, such as the Western Dry Region covering its desert districts and the Central Plateau and Hills Region in the southeastern parts. Thus, the state falls across more than one national agro-climatic zone rather than being confined to a single classification.

5. (A) 10-15°C during growing season and 50-75 cm rainfall
Wheat is a temperately adapted Rabi crop requiring cool weather during vegetative development and warm, sunny conditions at maturity. Optimal growth occurs in temperatures between ten and fifteen degrees Celsius during the vegetative phase and around twenty to twenty-five degrees Celsius during ripening. It thrives in well-drained loamy soils receiving fifty to seventy-five centimeters of evenly distributed annual rainfall.

6. (B) The Punjab-Haryana plains
The Punjab-Haryana plains are historically recognized as the wheat bowl of India due to exceptionally high yield rates and total output. Fertile alluvial soil, extensive canal systems, tubewell irrigation network, and the early adoption of high-yielding crop varieties during the Green Revolution enabled these northern plains to achieve unmatched production levels and sustain national food security reserves.

7. (D) Sri Ganganagar and Hanumangarh districts
Sri Ganganagar and Hanumangarh lead wheat production in Rajasthan because of extensive canal network infrastructure, particularly the Indira Gandhi Canal, Gang Canal, and Bhakra Canal systems. These surface water sources mitigate the hyper-arid climatic constraints of northwestern Rajasthan, transforming fertile alluvial-sandy soils into productive agricultural zones suitable for intensive Rabi cereal cropping.

8. (B) III and IV
Wheat is a Rabi crop sown during winter, from October to December, rather than with the southwest monsoon. It requires moderate rainfall between fifty and seventy-five centimeters and clear sunshine at harvest. Severe frost during flowering causes significant harm by damaging reproductive structures, making frost-free conditions crucial during early growth and anthesis stages.

9. (C) Uttar Pradesh
Uttar Pradesh is the top producer of wheat in India, accounting for over thirty percent of

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the national production. Its vast geographical expanse across the fertile Gangetic plains, favorable winter climate, deep alluvial soil deposits, and well-developed canal and tubewell irrigation infrastructure enable high aggregate production compared to other major agricultural states.

10. (A) Wheat and Rice
The Green Revolution in India, introduced during the mid-1960s, achieved remarkable yield breakthroughs primarily in wheat and rice. The introduction of semi-dwarf, disease-resistant varieties alongside expansion of modern irrigation, chemical fertilizers, and plant protection chemicals substantially elevated land productivity, turning India self-sufficient in essential foodgrain production and reducing foreign import dependence significantly.

11. (D) Kharif
Rice is predominantly cultivated as a Kharif crop across most agricultural regions in India. It is sown with the arrival of the southwest monsoon between June and July and harvested in autumn between September and October. The crop requires elevated ambient temperatures, moist conditions, and substantial water during its active vegetative development cycle.

12. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Rice demands high thermal conditions above twenty-five degrees Celsius, high relative air humidity, and heavy precipitation exceeding one hundred centimeters annually. The coastal plains and northeastern alluvial basins naturally possess these humid tropical conditions and dense river networks, providing ideal environmental requirements that explain why rice cultivation concentrates extensively in these geographical locations.

13. (C) Aus, Aman, Boro
In eastern states such as West Bengal, Assam, and Odisha, favorable climatic conditions and abundant water supplies allow farmers to harvest three paddy crops annually. These crops are known locally as Aus, sown in autumn; Aman, sown during the winter monsoon period; and Boro, cultivated during the summer season under irrigated conditions.

14. (D) West Bengal
West Bengal is the largest producer of rice in India, benefiting from fertile Gangetic delta soils, abundant monsoon precipitation, and riverine irrigation. Despite facing recurring tropical cyclones and flooding along coastal districts, triple cropping practices and extensive paddy cultivation across different seasonal cycles allow the state to maintain the highest total national output of rice.

15. (A) I and II only
India is the leading global exporter of rice, commanding a significant portion of international trade, while West Bengal produces the highest aggregate rice volume among states. However, per-hectare productivity is highest in Punjab, where irrigation access and modern input usage exceed eastern coastal states like Odisha, where productivity remains constrained by traditional farming methods.

16. (B) It reduces water requirement and seed rate while improving crop yield.
The System of Rice Intensification is an eco-friendly cultivation methodology that modifies plant, soil, water, and nutrient management. By transplanting young single seedlings with wider spacing and keeping fields moist rather than continuously flooded, this method significantly decreases seed consumption and irrigation water needs while encouraging healthier root growth and higher grain yield.

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17. (C) 210 days
Cotton is a warm-season fibre crop that requires a long, warm growing period free from frost. Optimal growth and boll development require at least two hundred and ten frost-free days combined with bright sunshine and high temperatures. Cold temperatures or early frost during boll formation severely damage fibre quality and lower overall crop yield.

18. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
West Bengal leads national jute production due to rich deltaic soils and humid conditions. Gujarat is the top groundnut producer owing to favorable semi-arid growing areas. Uttar Pradesh produces the largest volume of sugarcane through expansive irrigated Gangetic plains, and Kerala dominates commercial natural rubber production due to humid tropical climate and heavy precipitation.

19. (C) Cotton
Regur or black cotton soil, formed from basaltic lava flows across the Deccan Plateau, possesses high moisture retention, deep clay structure, and rich lime, iron, and magnesium content. These physical and chemical characteristics make regur soil ideal for cotton cultivation, supporting deep root penetration and sustaining crop growth through dry spells during the growing season.

20. (D) Peninsular India produces sugarcane with higher sucrose content and has a longer crushing season.
Tropical climatic conditions in peninsular India, characterized by moderate temperatures and maritime influence, yield sugarcane with significantly higher sucrose content. Furthermore, the mild winters allow cooperative sugar mills in southern and western states to operate over a extended crushing period compared to northern states, where severe winter conditions reduce sucrose yields and limit crushing operations.

21. (C) Severe frost during the crop ripening stage
Sugarcane is a long-duration tropical crop requiring warm, humid weather with temperatures between twenty-one and twenty-seven degrees Celsius and annual rainfall between seventy-five and one hundred centimeters. Severe frost during the ripening phase freezes juice within the stalks, causes cellular rupture, reduces sucrose content drastically, and damages overall crop quality and yield.

22. (A) I, II and III
Sugarcane thrives in tropical and subtropical zones with hot, humid conditions and optimal temperatures of twenty-one to twenty-seven degrees Celsius. Uttar Pradesh dominates national sugarcane production due to extensive alluvial cultivation. Brazil remains the world's leading producer of sugarcane, placing India second globally in total crop production rather than first.

23. (D) Stagnant water is injurious to the tea roots.
Tea bushes require humid tropical or subtropical conditions with rich, acidic, well-drained soil to support healthy growth. Prolonged waterlogging or stagnant water around root systems causes root rot and restricts air movement, severely damaging the plants. Hill slopes provide continuous natural drainage, preventing water accumulation and supporting optimal plantation productivity.

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24. (A) Frequent, evenly distributed showers
Tea plants require continuous moisture throughout the growing season to promote constant sprouting of tender young leaves. Frequent, evenly distributed rainfall without prolonged drought ensures steady leaf growth. Extended dry periods stunt leaf emergence, while heavy single bursts cause soil erosion; balanced precipitation across months maintains high foliage output for harvesting.

25. (A) Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala
Assam is the leading tea producer in India, contributing over half of the national output from the Brahmaputra and Barak valleys. West Bengal ranks second, driven by Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri plantations. Tamil Nadu and Kerala follow in southern India, utilizing Nilgiri and Western Ghats slope environments to produce the remainder of national supply.

26. (A) Coffee
Coffee cultivation was introduced to India during the seventeenth century when Sufi saint Baba Budan brought seven coffee seeds from Yemen and planted them on the hills of Chikmagalur, Karnataka. The mountain range was subsequently named Baba Budan Hills, serving as the historical cradle for commercial coffee plantation development across southern Peninsular regions.

27. (D) Arabica
Arabica coffee, originally imported from Yemen, is widely cultivated in the high-altitude plantation regions of southern India. Renowned globally for its delicate aroma, smooth flavour profile, and superior bean quality, Arabica commands premium market pricing internationally and represents a significant proportion of overall Indian commercial coffee production alongside Robusta varieties.

28. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Coffee plants are sensitive to direct, harsh solar radiation and intense soil evaporation. Modern plantation practices in India utilize deliberate multi-tiered shade canopy systems where tall leguminous trees shelter coffee bushes. This canopy buffers extreme temperature variations,

maintains soil moisture levels, and protects sensitive foliage, explaining why coffee is grown under shade.

29. (B) June to September
The Kharif season in Indian agriculture corresponds with the arrival and progression of the southwest monsoon, lasting from June through September. Farmers sow crops like paddy, coarse grains, pulses, and cotton during June and July when monsoon precipitation begins, harvesting them between September and October after completion of the vegetative maturation stage.

30. (D) Barley
Barley is classified as a Rabi crop, sown during the winter season from October to December and harvested in spring. In contrast, sorghum, pearl millet, and pigeon pea are rainfed Kharif crops sown with the onset of the southwest monsoon in June or July and harvested during autumn across northern Indian states.

31. (A) Rajasthan
Rajasthan is the leading producer of Bajra in India, contributing a significant majority of national output. Pearl millet possesses remarkable drought tolerance, deep root structures, and high water-use efficiency, enabling it to thrive in the dry sandy soils and low rainfall environments characteristic of western and central districts across the state.

32. (B) Western Disturbances
Western Disturbances are low-pressure cyclonic systems originating over the Mediterranean Sea that travel eastward across Central Asia. Entering northwestern India during winter months, these storms cause precipitation across Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, and western Uttar Pradesh. This winter precipitation, locally termed Mahawat, provides critical moisture essential for the growth of winter Rabi crops.

33. (B) Mustard
Mustard is an important oilseed crop grown exclusively during the Rabi winter season in northern and northwestern India. It is sown between October and November under cool climate conditions and harvested around March. In contrast, crops like maize, groundnut, and soybean are primarily cultivated during the monsoon Kharif season across these states.

34. (B) April to June
Rabi crops are sown during the onset of winter from October to December when temperatures begin to drop. These crops complete their growth cycle during cool winter months and reach maturity as temperatures rise in spring, leading to harvesting between April and June across major agricultural states in northern and central regions.

35. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Paddy is a primary Kharif food crop dependent on summer monsoons. Wheat serves as the principal Rabi food grain cultivated during winter. Watermelon is grown during the short summer Zaid interval between Rabi harvest and Kharif sowing. Sugarcane is a long-duration commercial cash crop grown for market sale and industrial processing.

36. (D) Groundnut
Zaid is a short summer cropping season spanning March to June between Rabi and Kharif crops. It features fast-growing crops like muskmelon, cucumber, watermelon, and fodder crops requiring warm dry weather and irrigation. Groundnut is primarily a monsoon Kharif crop requiring a longer growing period rather than a short Zaid crop.

37. (C) Assured irrigation facilities
Zaid crops are cultivated during peak summer months from March to June, a period marked by high heat, intense solar radiation, and absence of monsoon rainfall. Successful cultivation during this dry spell depends entirely on assured irrigation sources like tubewells, canals, and drip systems to supply required soil moisture for fast crop maturation.

38. (B) II only
The Green Revolution began in the 1960s utilizing high-yielding seed varieties, modern fertilizers, and expanded irrigation, achieving notable early productivity gains in wheat and rice across northern states like Punjab and Haryana. Professor M.S. Swaminathan is recognized as the father of the Green Revolution in India, whereas Dr. Verghese Kurien spearheaded the White Revolution.

39. (D) Depletion of groundwater tables
Intensive agricultural practices established during the Green Revolution relied heavily on

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water-intensive crop rotations like wheat-paddy along with excessive tube well extraction. Over decades, unregulated groundwater pumping for irrigation significantly exceeded natural recharge rates, causing persistent water table decline, soil salinization, and long-term ecological stress across primary grain-producing regions like Punjab and Haryana.

40. (C) Bihar, Odisha, and West Bengal
Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India is a flagship sub-scheme launched under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana targeting eastern states including Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and eastern Uttar Pradesh. It aims to exploit abundant water resources and fertile soils to improve agricultural infrastructure and maximize paddy productivity.

41. (C) A crop grown primarily for sale in the market to earn profit.
A cash crop is an agricultural crop grown specifically to be sold on local, national, or international commercial markets to yield financial profit rather than for direct subsistence or household consumption by the farming family. Major examples include cotton, sugarcane, tea, coffee, jute, and oilseeds, which generate direct monetary income for agricultural producers.

42. (A) Growing crops primarily for national and international markets.
Commercialisation of agriculture represents a structural shift from subsistence production toward market-oriented farming. Instead of producing foodgrains solely to satisfy family consumption, farmers choose crop varieties based on market demand, price signals, and profitability, selling surplus produce in domestic or global supply chains to generate revenue and integrate with broader economic markets.

43. (D) Rice in regions like Punjab and Haryana
Rice serves as a primary subsistence staple crop for local populations in eastern and southern states like West Bengal, Odisha, and Tamil Nadu. Conversely, in northern states like Punjab and Haryana, wheat is the primary dietary staple, while paddy is grown commercially as a market-oriented cash crop destined for national procurement and export.

44. (B) It delivers water directly to the root zone, reducing evaporation and runoff.
Drip micro-irrigation delivers precise amounts of water and dissolved nutrients directly near the plant root zone through network drippers or emitters. By slowly dripping water directly onto soil surfaces, this method minimizes water loss from surface runoff, deep percolation, and weed growth, ensuring high water-use efficiency in arid and semi-arid regions.

45. (B) III only
Canal irrigation requires flat terrain and deep soft alluvial soils, making it dominant in the northern Gangetic plains rather than the peninsular plateau, where rocky terrain favours tank irrigation. Micro-irrigation reduces water usage over flood methods, sprinklers suit porous sandy soils, and groundwater via wells/tubewells constitutes Rajasthan's main irrigation source.

46. (D) Promoting drip and sprinkler micro-irrigation.
The 'Per Drop More Crop' scheme is a key component under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana designed to enhance water efficiency at farm level. It focuses on expanding micro-irrigation technologies like drip and sprinkler systems, encouraging precise water management, reducing operational energy costs, and maximizing crop production per unit of applied water.

47. (A) The production of a crop per unit area of land.
In agricultural economics, yield measures land productivity defined as the physical quantity of agricultural crop harvested per unit area of cultivated land, typically expressed in kilograms per hectare or quintals per hectare. It reflects the technological efficiency, soil fertility, seed quality, and management intensity of farming operations across different regions.

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48. (A) 1, 2, 3
Punjab achieves the highest per-hectare wheat yield in India due to near-total irrigation coverage, high chemical fertilizer application, and mechanized farming methods. Uttar Pradesh follows with moderate average productivity, while Madhya Pradesh records lower per-hectare productivity because a larger proportion of its wheat cultivation area remains under rainfed dryland conditions.

49. (B) Production is total crop harvested, whereas productivity is output per unit of land.
Total agricultural production represents the absolute physical volume or weight of a crop harvested across an entire geographic region during a given season. Conversely, agricultural productivity measures the relative efficiency of land usage, calculated as the physical crop yield produced per unit area, such as metric tonnes per hectare cultivated.

50. (A) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)
The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, an attached office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, recommends Minimum Support Prices for agricultural commodities in India. CACP evaluates factors including production costs, market price trends, input-output price parity, demand-supply dynamics, and inter-crop price parity before submitting annual price recommendations.

51. (B) 22 mandated crops
The Government of India officially fixes Minimum Support Prices for twenty-two mandated agricultural crops based on CACP recommendations. These include fourteen Kharif crops, six Rabi crops, and two commercial crops. Additionally, Fair and Remunerative Price is statutorily fixed for sugarcane, bringing structured government price support coverage across twenty-three key agricultural commodities nationwide.

52. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The cropping pattern in Punjab and Haryana is heavily oriented toward a wheat-paddy rotation. Assured state procurement through agencies like the Food Corporation of India at declared Minimum Support Prices provides guaranteed price stability and lower market risk, incentivizing farmers to prefer these grains over pulses or oilseeds lacking open procurement mechanisms.

53. (C) Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP)
Sugarcane pricing in India is statutorily regulated under the Sugarcane (Control) Order through the Fair and Remunerative Price, announced annually by the Central Government based on CACP recommendations. Sugar mills are legally bound to pay at least the FRP to sugarcane growers, linked to basic sugar recovery percentage rates achieved by mills.

54. (B) To network APMC mandis into a unified national agricultural market.
The National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) is a pan-India electronic trading portal that integrates existing Agricultural Produce Market Committee mandis into a unified digital market. It facilitates transparent online bidding, standardized quality testing, and direct electronic payments, enabling farmers to access buyers nationwide, reduce intermediary costs, and realize better price discovery for commodities.

55. (D) Agricultural Produce Market Committee
An Agricultural Produce Market Committee is a statutory marketing board established by state governments under their respective APMC Acts. APMCs regulate physical wholesale market yards, ensure fair trading practices, prevent farmer exploitation by traders, oversee transparent auction mechanisms, and collect market fees to maintain regional marketing infrastructure across notified agricultural areas.

56. (A) A long chain of intermediaries reducing the farmer's share of consumer price.
Traditional agricultural marketing in India is characterized by multiple layers of middlemen, including commission agents, local traders, wholesalers, and retailers. This extended supply chain results in high transaction costs, handling charges, and profit margins at each step, significantly reducing the producer's share in the final retail price paid by consumers.

57. (D) Marginal (less than 1 hectare)
According to official Agricultural Censuses in India, marginal operational holdings operating on less than one hectare of land constitute over sixty-eight percent of all operational agricultural holdings. Combined with small holdings between one and two hectares, small and marginal farmers account for over eighty-six percent of total landholdings nationwide today.

58. (A) It makes modern mechanisation and large-scale irrigation economically unviable.
Continuous sub-division and fragmentation of landholdings across successive generations result in tiny, scattered plots. Operating tiny fields renders heavy machinery like tractors, harvesters, and specialized implements economically

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inefficient, prevents the construction of effective field channels or tubewell irrigation systems, increases operational overheads, and leads to land loss along plot boundaries.

59. (D) Promoting cooperative farming and Farmer Producer Organisations.
Promoting Farmer Producer Organisations and cooperative farming models enables small and marginal farmers to aggregate land, inputs, and produce. Group pooling achieves economies of scale in machinery rental, bulk input procurement, and direct market bargaining, enabling smallholders to overcome structural limitations caused by fragmented, sub-economic landholdings while retaining land ownership.

60. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
Mango showers in Kerala assist in early ripening of mangoes. Blossom showers in Karnataka help coffee flowers bloom. Norwesters, or Kalbaishakhi, bring thunderstorm rainfall in West Bengal that benefits spring rice and jute crops despite localized wind damage. Loo refers to hot, dry summer winds sweeping across northern plains that cause crop distress.

61. (C) 50-55%
Approximately fifty to fifty-five percent of the net sown area in India remains rainfed, lacking access to canal, tubewell, or micro-irrigation infrastructure. Rainfed agriculture contributes substantially to pulse, coarse cereal, and oilseed production, making overall national agricultural performance highly vulnerable to variations, delays, or deficits in the seasonal southwest monsoon.

62. (D) El Nino
El Nino is a periodic warming of central and eastern equatorial Pacific sea surface waters that disrupts global atmospheric circulation patterns. During El Nino events, Walker circulation shifts eastward, suppressing convective rainfall over the Indian subcontinent. This frequently leads to deficient southwest monsoon rainfall, delayed sowing, and widespread agricultural drought conditions.

63. (A) Rapeseed and Mustard
Rajasthan holds the leading position in India for rapeseed and mustard production, accounting for over forty percent of total national output. The state's dry winter climate, light loamy soils, and suitability for cool-weather Rabi cropping provide ideal conditions for cultivating oilseeds like mustard, mustard-taramira blends, and toria across northern and eastern districts.

64. (B) Oilseeds
The Yellow Revolution refers to the strategic growth initiative launched in the late 1980s under the Technology Mission on Oilseeds to significantly boost edible oilseed production in India. It focused on enhancing yields of nine major oilseed crops, including mustard, groundnut, and soybean, aiming for national self-reliance in edible oil production.

65. (D) I, II and III
Groundnut is predominantly cultivated as a Kharif monsoon crop, whereas mustard is cultivated during the cool Rabi winter season. India is one of the world's largest oilseed producers, yet high domestic consumption of cooking oils creates a substantial production deficit, necessitating significant imports of palm, soybean, and sunflower oils to meet domestic consumer demand.

66. (A) Madhya Pradesh
Madhya Pradesh is known as the Soybean State of India because it leads national production, contributing roughly half of total domestic output. The Malwa plateau region provides well-drained deep black soils, warm temperatures, and optimal rainfall conditions during the monsoon season, facilitating widespread commercial cultivation of soybean as a primary Kharif oilseed crop.

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67. (C) Arhar (Tur)
Most leguminous pulses harbor symbiotic Rhizobium bacteria in root nodules that fix atmospheric nitrogen into the soil. Pigeon pea, or Arhar, fix significantly lower amounts of active atmospheric nitrogen during early vegetative stages compared to other pulse crops, requiring supplemental nitrogenous fertilization during its long growth cycle to achieve optimal crop yields.

68. (D) India is the largest producer, consumer, and importer of pulses.
India occupies a distinct position in the global pulse economy, holding rankings as the world's largest producer, largest consumer, and largest importer of pulses. Because pulses serve as the main protein source for a largely vegetarian

population, domestic demand exceeds local production volumes, requiring significant annual imports from nations like Canada, Myanmar, and Australia.

69. (C) They require less moisture and survive well in dry conditions.
Pulses are leguminous crops with deep taproot systems that extract subsoil moisture efficiently. They exhibit high drought tolerance and low water consumption relative to cereals like paddy or sugarcane. Consequently, pulses thrive in rainfed, semi-arid regions with limited access to irrigation, serving as ideal crops for dryland farming systems across India.

70. (A) Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan
Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan consistently rank as the top three pulse-producing states in India. These three states possess expansive rainfed semi-arid agricultural tracts and suitable black and loamy soils, enabling extensive cultivation of major Kharif and Rabi pulses like chickpea, pigeon pea, green gram, and black gram across dryland farming areas.

71. (D) Golden Revolution
The Golden Revolution designates the period between 1991 and 2003 marked by rapid growth in the production of horticultural crops, including fruits, vegetables, flowers, spices, and honey in India. Nirpakh Tutej is recognized as the father of this movement, which elevated horticulture into a major commercial sector within Indian agriculture.

72. (A) Horticultural crops yield higher returns per unit area than staple food crops.
Horticultural crops, including high-value fruits, vegetables, plantation crops, and spices, generate substantially higher economic returns and net income per hectare than traditional foodgrains. India ranks second globally in total fruit and vegetable production behind China. Horticulture contributes over thirty percent to agricultural GDP despite utilizing a smaller fraction of cultivated land nationwide.

73. (C) Kerala
Kerala is traditionally known as the Spice Garden of India owing to its rich historical legacy and ideal agro-climatic conditions for spice cultivation. The state's humid tropical climate, elevated hill slopes, and rich forest soils support the production of premium-quality spices, including black pepper, cardamom, cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, and ginger.

74. (A) Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture
Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched to promote the holistic growth of the horticulture sector. MIDH integrates various sub-schemes to support post-harvest infrastructure, cold chain facilities, quality planting material production, protected cultivation, and market linkages, covering fruits, vegetables, root crops, spices, and aromatic plants across states.

75. (D) Jute
West Bengal dominates jute production in India, contributing over three-quarters of national output. The fertile alluvial soils of the lower Gangetic delta, combined with high temperatures, heavy rainfall, and abundant clean water bodies required for the retting process, make West Bengal the ideal geographical location for intensive commercial raw jute fiber cultivation.

76. (B) Guar
Rajasthan accounts for over seventy percent of global and national guar production. Cluster bean, or guar, is a highly drought-tolerant leguminous crop that thrives in the arid sandy soils of western Rajasthan. Guar gum extracted from seeds is extensively utilized in food processing, textiles, paper, and hydraulic fracturing industries worldwide.

77. (C) Maharashtra
Maharashtra is the leading producer of Sorghum, or Jowar, in India, accounting for a major share of total national output. The crop is widely cultivated in semi-arid tracts of the Deccan Plateau across both Kharif and Rabi seasons because black cotton soils and dry weather conditions suit sorghum's drought-resistant physiology.

78. (D) I, II, III and IV
All paired crop and state combinations reflect dominant national production distributions correctly. Madhya Pradesh leads in soybean production, Gujarat is the premier state for cotton output, Rajasthan ranks first in pearl

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millet cultivation due to dryland ecology, and Karnataka accounts for over seventy percent of India's total commercial coffee production.

79. (A) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana
Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana is an elaborated sub-component of Soil Health Management under the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture. PKVY promotes organic farming using a cluster approach with Participatory Guarantee System certification. It incentivizes farmers to adopt traditional organic inputs, bio-fertilizers, and sustainable soil management practices free from synthetic chemical inputs.

80. (B) Sikkim
Sikkim achieved the distinction of becoming the world's first fully organic state in 2016. Through policy initiatives implemented over a decade, the state government phase-wise prohibited the import, sale, and use of synthetic chemical fertilizers and chemical pesticides, transitioning all agricultural land across the state to certified organic farming practices.

81. (B) Bio-fertilizers such as Rhizobium
Organic farming eschews synthetic chemicals, relying on natural bio-fertilizers such as Rhizobium, Azotobacter, and blue-green algae to enrich soil nutrient levels naturally. Rhizobium bacteria form symbiotic root nodule relationships with leguminous crops, converting atmospheric nitrogen into plant-assimilable forms, enhancing soil biological fertility and supporting crop yield without applying synthetic chemical fertilizers.

82. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
When transitioning from chemical to organic farming, yields often experience a temporary drop during initial conversion years. Soils accustomed to synthetic chemical fertilizers require time to rebuild beneficial microbial populations, organic matter content, and natural nutrient cycling mechanisms, explaining why yield lags occur before ecological equilibrium and natural soil productivity recover.

83. (C) The ratio of Gross Cropped Area to Net Sown Area.
Cropping intensity indicates the extent to which a given physical land area is cultivated within an agricultural year. Mathematically defined as the ratio of Gross Cropped Area to Net Sown Area expressed as a percentage, higher values indicate multiple cropping on the same plot facilitated by irrigation, short-duration seeds, and modern farming techniques.

84. (D) Jhumming
'Slash and burn' agriculture, where forest patches are cleared, burned, and cultivated for a few seasons before abandonment to restore fertility, is known as Jhumming or Jhum cultivation across northeastern Indian states like Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, and Mizoram. Indigenous communities traditionally practice this shifting cultivation methodology on tropical hill slopes.

85. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Agricultural revolutions in India reflect sectoral growth initiatives. The Blue Revolution enhanced fish production and aquaculture capabilities. The White Revolution, or Operation Flood, transformed national milk production. The Silver Revolution expanded poultry production and egg yields, while the Round Revolution boosted potato output through technological adoption and cold storage expansion nationwide.

86. (B) Mixed farming integrates crop production with livestock, while mixed cropping grows multiple crops together.
Mixed farming is an integrated agricultural system combining crop cultivation with allied enterprises like cattle rearing, poultry, or dairying to diversify farm income and recycle organic waste. In contrast, mixed cropping refers strictly to planting two or more different crop species simultaneously on the same plot during a single growing season to reduce risks.

87. (D) The share of agriculture in India's GVA has steadily increased over the last five decades.
As the Indian economy developed over the past five decades, the secondary and tertiary sectors grew rapidly, resulting in a structural decline in agriculture's relative share of national Gross Value Added from over fifty percent in 1970 to around sixteen to eighteen percent today, despite continuous absolute growth in overall agricultural production.

88. (A) 2, 1, 3, 4
Agricultural supply chains follow a sequential marketing flow. Harvesting and aggregation occur first at the farm level, followed immediately

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by primary processing, cleaning, and quality grading. Produce is subsequently transported to secondary markets or APMC wholesale mandis for auctions before finally reaching retail channels for distribution to ultimate end consumers.

89. (C) The grain-filling stage of Rabi wheat, causing shriveled grains.
Unseasonal spring heatwaves in March severely impact winter Rabi wheat during its crucial grain-filling and dough development stage. Abnormally high ambient temperatures accelerate plant transpiration and maturation, curtailing grain development, reducing starch accumulation, causing kernel shriveling, and significantly reducing both overall crop yield weight and grain quality across affected regions.

90. (A) Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES)
The Directorate of Economics and Statistics, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, acts as the central agency for estimating national agricultural production and issuing crop forecasts. DES coordinates with state revenue and agriculture departments, utilizing standardized Crop Cutting Experiments methodology to generate reliable scientific estimates of crop yields across states.

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CHAPTER 06
Major Minerals of India

1. Which of the following best defines a metallic mineral?
(A) A mineral that contains a high percentage of silica and oxygen
(B) A mineral that yields metal upon melting and generally has a shiny appearance
(C) A mineral primarily formed through the decomposition of organic matter
(D) A mineral that cannot conduct electricity or heat under any conditions

2. Among the following classifications of minerals, which group consists entirely of non-metallic minerals?
(A) Copper, Bauxite, Limestone
(B) Manganese, Mica, Coal
(C) Iron ore, Bauxite, Dolomite
(D) Mica, Limestone, Gypsum

3. In the context of mineral classification, which of the following is considered a precious metallic mineral?
(A) Platinum
(B) Bauxite
(C) Galena
(D) Chromite

4. Which of the following varieties of iron ore has the highest iron content and excellent magnetic qualities, making it highly valuable for the electrical industry?
(A) Hematite
(B) Limonite
(C) Magnetite
(D) Siderite

5. The Badampahar mines, known for high-grade hematite iron ore, are located in which of the following mineral belts?
(A) Odisha-Jharkhand belt
(B) Durg-Bastar-Chandrapur belt
(C) Bellary-Chitradurga-Chikkamagaluru-Tumakuru belt
(D) Maharashtra-Goa belt

6. The Kudremukh iron ore deposits, which are reputed to be among the largest in the world, are primarily located in which state?
(A) Odisha
(B) Chhattisgarh
(C) Jharkhand
(D) Karnataka

7. Manganese is primarily required for the manufacturing of which of the following industrial products?
(A) Primary aluminium smelting operations
(B) Steel and alloy manufacturing
(C) Synthetic electrical insulator production
(D) Construction-grade cement manufacturing

8. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): India exports large quantities of high-grade iron ore to countries like Japan and South Korea.
Reason (R): India lacks the domestic steel manufacturing capacity to utilize any of its own iron ore production.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

9. Which state is traditionally recognized as the largest producer of manganese ores in India, often accounting for the highest share of the country's total production?
(A) Rajasthan
(B) Gujarat
(C) Tamil Nadu
(D) Madhya Pradesh

10. Consider the following statements regarding Bauxite distribution in India:
I. Bauxite deposits are mainly formed by the

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decomposition of a wide variety of rocks rich in aluminium silicates.
II. Amarkantak plateau and Maikal hills are significant bauxite producing areas.
III. Rajasthan is the largest producer of bauxite in India due to its extensive desert rock formations.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

11. The Panchpatmali deposits in the Koraput district are highly famous for which of the following minerals?
(A) Iron Ore
(B) Bauxite
(C) Copper
(D) Manganese

12. Which of the following is the most critical locational factor for the establishment of an aluminium smelting plant?
(A) Proximity to dense forest areas for timber
(B) Regular and massive supply of cheap electricity
(C) Nearness to a perennial river for cooling water only
(D) Proximity to large urban consumer markets

13. Mica is considered indispensable for the electrical and electronics industry primarily because of its:
(A) High dielectric strength and low power loss
(B) High thermal conductivity coupled with exceptional malleability
(C) High iron content facilitating effective electromagnetic shielding
(D) Exceptional ability to be readily dissolved in acidic solutions

14. The Koderma-Gaya-Hazaribagh belt is considered the leading producer of which of the following minerals?
(A) Bauxite
(B) Copper
(C) Mica
(D) Limestone

15. Consider the following statements regarding Coal in India:
I. Coal in India occurs in rock series of two main geological ages: Gondwana and Tertiary.
II. Gondwana coal is primarily metallurgical coal and is located in the Damodar valley.
III. Tertiary coal deposits are predominantly found in the north-eastern states of Meghalaya, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, and Nagaland.
IV. Anthracite, the highest quality hard coal, is abundantly found across all major states of Peninsular India.
Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) III and IV only
(D) IV only

16. The majority of India's metallurgical grade coal reserves belong to which geological formation?
(A) Dharwar System
(B) Tertiary System
(C) Gondwana System
(D) Cuddapah System

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17. In India, the only significant reserves of anthracite coal are found in which of the following regions?
(A) Jharia field in the state of Jharkhand
(B) Kalakot, Jammu and Kashmir
(C) Raniganj field in the state of West Bengal
(D) Neyveli field in the state of Tamil Nadu

18. Digboi, Naharkatiya, and Moran-Hugrijan are important oil fields located in which state?
(A) Gujarat
(B) Maharashtra
(C) Rajasthan
(D) Assam

19. The Mumbai High oil field, one of India's largest petroleum producing areas, operates under the jurisdiction of which entity due to its offshore location?
(A) The Central Government of India
(B) The State Government of Maharashtra
(C) The Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai
(D) A joint consortium of all coastal states

20. Large reserves of natural gas have been discovered in the Krishna-Godavari (KG) basin. This basin is primarily located off the coast of which state?
(A) Gujarat
(B) Odisha
(C) Andhra Pradesh
(D) Kerala

21. Which of the following regions is NOT traditionally associated with copper mining in India?
(A) Kudremukh in Karnataka
(B) Balaghat mines in Madhya Pradesh
(C) Khetri mines in Rajasthan
(D) Singhbhum district in Jharkhand

22. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: Mineral
P. Copper
Q. Bauxite
R. Lignite Coal
S. Mica
List II: Leading Producing State/Region
1. Odisha
2. Madhya Pradesh
3. Andhra Pradesh
4. Tamil Nadu
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

23. The Khetri Copper Complex, established by Hindustan Copper Limited, is situated in which district of Rajasthan?
(A) Udaipur
(B) Jhunjhunu
(C) Bhilwara
(D) Alwar

24. Zawar mines in Rajasthan are primarily famous for the extraction of which of the following mineral ores?
(A) Bauxite and Aluminium
(B) Iron ore and Manganese
(C) Lead and Zinc
(D) Coal and Lignite

25. Select the correct order of the following states arranged in descending order of their total bauxite reserves (highest to lowest):
(A) Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat
(B) Gujarat, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh
(C) Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Odisha
(D) Odisha, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh

26. Which of the following minerals is an essential, basic raw material for the cement industry and essential for smelting iron ore in the blast furnace?
(A) Limestone
(B) Gypsum
(C) Dolomite
(D) Bauxite

27. Rajasthan holds a near monopoly in the production of which of the following non-metallic minerals in India?
(A) Coal and Petroleum
(B) Wollastonite and Jasper
(C) Bauxite and Iron ore
(D) Manganese and Chromite

28. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Aluminium smelting plants are frequently established close to sources of abundant and cheap electricity.
Reason (R): The process of extracting aluminium from alumina is highly energy-intensive.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

29. The National Mineral Policy (NMP) 2019 focuses heavily on which of the following strategic objectives?
(A) Promoting private exploration and sustainable mining
(B) Mandating complete nationalization of all private sector mining operations by 2030
(C) Banning the commercial export of all metallic minerals to conserve reserves
(D) Restricting offshore mining operations exclusively to foreign multinational corporations

30. Under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, what is the primary purpose of the District Mineral Foundation (DMF)?
(A) To facilitate and streamline the international export of extracted minerals from the district
(B) To evaluate and grant mandatory environmental clearances for all new mining projects
(C) To work for the benefit of mining-affected persons and areas
(D) To regulate and set local market prices for all mineral resources extracted in the district

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31. The National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) was established under the MMDR Act primarily to:
(A) Regulate and monitor the stock market prices of publicly traded mining companies
(B) Manage and distribute comprehensive pension funds to all retired mineworkers
(C) Oversee and approve the strategic import of critical rare earth minerals from Africa
(D) Promote detailed mineral exploration nationwide

32. Consider the following statements regarding the environmental impacts of mining:
I. Mining activities often lead to land degradation and deforestation in the extraction areas.
II. Acid mine drainage is a significant water pollution issue associated with coal and metal mining.
III. Underground mining completely eliminates the risk of ground subsidence.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I only
(D) I, II, and III

33. The practice known as 'rat-hole mining', which involves digging narrow tunnels to extract coal, is a severe environmental and safety hazard predominantly associated with which state?
(A) Rajasthan
(B) Meghalaya
(C) Gujarat
(D) Kerala

34. Which state in India is the largest producer of metallic minerals overall, largely driven by its massive iron ore and bauxite output?
(A) Rajasthan
(B) Karnataka
(C) Maharashtra
(D) Odisha

35. Rajasthan is a leading producer of several non-metallic minerals. Which of the following statements incorrectly characterizes Rajasthan's mineral wealth?
(A) It contains major reserves of metallurgical Gondwana coal.
(B) It is recognized as the leading national producer of lead and zinc ores in India.
(C) It possesses vast and commercially significant reserves of cement-grade limestone.
(D) It is an exceptionally prominent producer of high-grade industrial gypsum and decorative marble.

36. Despite a diverse mineral base, India is heavily dependent on imports for which of the following crucial metallic minerals?
(A) Iron ore
(B) Bauxite
(C) Copper
(D) Manganese

37. Which major sea port in India handles the highest volume of iron ore exports, primarily catering to the Durg-Bastar-Chandrapur belt?
(A) Visakhapatnam
(B) Kandla
(C) Kochi
(D) Haldia

38. Consider the following statements about Rare Earth Minerals in India:
I. Monazite sand found in coastal areas is a primary source of rare earth elements in India.
II. Thorium, a radioactive element, can be derived from monazite deposits.
III. The coastal sands of Kerala and Tamil Nadu are poor in rare earth mineral deposits.
IV. Rare earth minerals are crucial for manufacturing permanent magnets used in electronics and electric vehicles.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

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39. Which of the following is NOT a typical application of Rare Earth Elements (REEs)?
(A) Manufacturing of smartphones and displays
(B) Bulk manufacturing of standard Portland cement
(C) Production of high-strength permanent magnets for wind turbines
(D) Aerospace components and defense technologies

40. The Panna diamond mining belt, which accounts for almost the entirety of India's domestic diamond production, is located in:
(A) Rajasthan
(B) Karnataka

(C) Madhya Pradesh
(D) Andhra Pradesh

41. The Geological Survey of India (GSI), the principal agency responsible for geological mapping and regional mineral resource assessment, has its headquarters located in:
(A) New Delhi
(B) Mumbai
(C) Hyderabad
(D) Kolkata

42. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: Mineral Belt
P. North-Eastern Plateau Region
Q. South-Western Plateau Region
R. North-Western Region
S. Himalayan Belt
List II: Key Characteristics
1. Rich in copper, zinc, and non-metallic minerals
2. Extremely rich in coal, iron ore, manganese, and bauxite
3. Contains copper, lead, zinc, cobalt, and tungsten but lacks deep connectivity
4. Rich in iron ore and bauxite but entirely lacks coal deposits
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

43. While the Geological Survey of India (GSI) is responsible for exploration, the regulation of mines and mineral development (excluding coal, petroleum, and atomic minerals) is primarily monitored by which statutory body?
(A) National Green Tribunal (NGT)
(B) Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)
(C) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)
(D) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

44. Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), coastal nations like India have exclusive rights to explore and exploit mineral resources in their Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) up to a distance of:
(A) 12 nautical miles from the baseline
(B) 200 nautical miles from the baseline
(C) 100 nautical miles from the baseline
(D) 500 nautical miles from the baseline

45. India has secured exploration rights from the International Seabed Authority to mine polymetallic nodules in the Central Indian Ocean Basin. These nodules are primarily rich in:
(A) Manganese, nickel, copper, cobalt
(B) High-grade native gold, refined silver, and platinum group elements
(C) Radioactive deposits of uranium, enriched thorium, and plutonium
(D) Combustible fossil fuels including coal, crude petroleum, and natural gas

46. Manganese is heavily utilized in which of the following industries outside of metallurgy?
(A) Industrial production of synthetic nitrogenous agricultural fertilizers
(B) Primary heat-exchange coolant systems in modern nuclear power reactors
(C) Dry cell batteries and bleaching powder
(D) Chemical vulcanization processes in heavy industrial rubber manufacturing

47. In the iron and steel industry, limestone is fundamentally used as a:
(A) Primary high-energy fuel source used to generate thermal heat in the blast furnace
(B) Essential structural hardening agent that is alloyed directly into molten steel
(C) Primary chemical reducing agent utilized to strip bound oxygen from raw hematite
(D) Flux to remove silica impurities

48. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): India imports a large proportion of its petroleum requirements.
Reason (R): India's domestic petroleum production from sedimentary basins is insufficient to meet its rapidly growing industrial and transport demands.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

49. Among the following options, identify the mineral that is characterized as non-metallic, organic, and combustible.
(A) Sulfur

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(B) Coal
(C) Graphite
(D) Mica

50. Arrange the following types of coal found in India in ascending order of their fixed carbon content (lowest to highest):
I. Bituminous
II. Lignite
III. Peat
IV. Anthracite
(A) III, II, I, IV
(B) II, III, I, IV
(C) III, I, II, IV
(D) I, II, III, IV

51. The Bailadila range of hills in Chhattisgarh is famous for high-grade iron ore deposits. To which country is this ore predominantly exported via the Visakhapatnam port?
(A) Japan
(B) United Kingdom
(C) United States of America
(D) Australia

52. The Bellary-Chitradurga-Chikkamagaluru-Tumakuru iron ore belt is largely located in the state of:
(A) Andhra Pradesh
(B) Telangana
(C) Karnataka
(D) Tamil Nadu

53. Although Madhya Pradesh is the largest producer of manganese ore in India, which state holds the largest share of manganese reserves?
(A) Odisha
(B) Rajasthan
(C) Gujarat
(D) Bihar

54. Consider the following statements regarding the industrial uses of Bauxite:
I. Bauxite is the principal ore used to produce alumina, which is then smelted into aluminium.
II. Aluminium is preferred in the aviation industry due to its light weight and high strength when alloyed.
III. Bauxite mining has minimal environmental footprint because it is generally found deep underground rather than in surface deposits.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

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55. The Nellore mica belt, recognized for producing high-quality muscovite mica, is situated in which state?
(A) Jharkhand
(B) Andhra Pradesh
(C) Rajasthan
(D) Karnataka

56. In Rajasthan, the major mica producing area is primarily centered around which districts?
(A) Jaisalmer and Barmer
(B) Kota and Bundi
(C) Bhilwara and Ajmer
(D) Bikaner and Churu

57. The Jharia coalfield, widely considered the most important and largest coalfield in India with highly valuable metallurgical coal, is located in:
(A) West Bengal
(B) Chhattisgarh
(C) Madhya Pradesh
(D) Jharkhand

58. Significant deposits of lignite (brown coal) are found in Neyveli in Tamil Nadu. In Rajasthan, major lignite deposits are famously extracted from which of the following locations?
(A) Palana and Barsingsar
(B) Zawar and Rajpura Dariba
(C) Khetri and Singhana
(D) Morija and Banol

59. Which of the following is the oldest oil-producing state in India?
(A) Gujarat
(B) Assam
(C) Maharashtra
(D) Tamil Nadu

60. Consider the following statements about Natural Gas in India:
I. Natural gas is considered an environmentally friendly fuel because of low carbon dioxide emissions compared to coal.
II. The Hazira-Vijaipur-Jagdishpur (HVJ) pipeline was India's first cross-state gas pipeline.
III. Natural gas cannot be found independently; it is always found associated with crude oil in oil fields.
IV. Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is

increasingly used in the transport sector to reduce urban pollution.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

61. The primary component of natural gas, which makes it an efficient fuel source, is:
(A) Methane
(B) Propane
(C) Butane
(D) Ethane

62. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: Oil/Gas Field
P. Ankleshwar
Q. Digboi
R. Mangala
S. Bassien (Vasai)
List II: State
1. Rajasthan
2. Assam
3. Offshore Maharashtra
4. Gujarat
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(B) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3

63. The Malanjkhand deposits, which account for a substantial portion of India's copper production, are located in:
(A) Rajasthan
(B) Jharkhand
(C) Chhattisgarh
(D) Madhya Pradesh

64. The famous Hutti and Kolar mines are historically associated with the extraction of which non-ferrous mineral?
(A) Silver
(B) Platinum
(C) Gold
(D) Copper

65. Limestone is generally found associated with which of the following rock types?
(A) Extrusive and intrusive igneous rock formations
(B) Sedimentary rocks
(C) Metamorphic rock structures including quartzite and schist
(D) Volcanic basalt formations derived from lava flows

66. Under the current Mineral Policy and FDI guidelines of India, what is the maximum limit of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) permitted under the automatic route for mining and exploration of non-metal and non-fuel ores?
(A) 49%
(B) 74%
(C) 51%
(D) 100%

67. The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act introduced a major structural change in how mineral concessions (leases) are granted. What is the current mandatory method for allocating major mineral blocks?
(A) Transparent competitive e-auction
(B) First-come, first-served basis
(C) Discretionary allocation by the Chief Minister
(D) Lottery system conducted by the Indian Bureau of Mines

68. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Mica is extensively used in the manufacturing of capacitors and electrical insulators.
Reason (R): Mica can withstand high voltage and has excellent dielectric properties.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

69. Acid Mine Drainage (AMD), a severe environmental consequence of mining, is most commonly associated with the mining of:
(A) Coal and sulfide ores
(B) Bauxite
(C) Limestone and dolomite
(D) Gypsum

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70. Select the correct geographical order of the following major iron ore export ports from North to South along the eastern coast of India:
(A) Paradip, Visakhapatnam, Chennai
(B) Visakhapatnam, Paradip, Chennai
(C) Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Paradip
(D) Paradip, Chennai, Visakhapatnam

71. Which physiographic region in India is often referred to as the "Ruhr of India" due to its dense concentration of coal and heavy mineral deposits?
(A) Malwa Plateau
(B) Chota Nagpur Plateau
(C) Deccan Trap
(D) Shillong Plateau

72. Which of the following is the most accurate statement regarding the import-export status of minerals in India?
(A) India acts as a major net exporting nation for raw unrefined crude petroleum.
(B) India maintains absolute self-sufficiency in copper resources and avoids all imports.
(C) India exports iron ore but imports coking coal.
(D) India relies heavily on foreign imports of mica to satisfy growing domestic demand.

73. In the periodic table, the majority of Rare Earth Elements (REEs) belong to which of the following series?
(A) Actinides
(B) Halogens
(C) Alkali metals
(D) Lanthanides

74. Which public sector enterprise under the Department of Atomic Energy is primarily responsible for mining and processing of rare earth minerals from beach sand deposits in India?
(A) India Rare Earths Limited (IREL)
(B) National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)
(C) Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL)
(D) Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL)

75. In India, primary diamond deposits are typically found in geological formations known as:
(A) Basaltic dykes
(B) Kimberlite pipes
(C) Quartz veins
(D) Bauxite laterites

76. Consider the following statements regarding the role of the Geological Survey of India (GSI):
I. GSI conducts macro-level geological mapping and assessment of mineral resources.
II. GSI grants commercial mining leases to private companies.
III. GSI publishes geological maps and reports that aid in preliminary mineral exploration.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II, and III

77. Which of the following Indian entities is primarily engaged in acquiring oil and gas assets overseas to ensure India's energy security?
(A) ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL)
(B) Oil India Limited (OIL)
(C) Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL)
(D) Reliance Industries Limited

78. In the industrial processing of bauxite, which of the following intermediate products is extracted first before being reduced to aluminium?
(A) Complex aluminium silicate compound
(B) High-density aluminium carbide matrix
(C) Alumina
(D) Synthetic molten cryolite flux solution

79. Which of the following non-metallic minerals is highly valued as a refractory material (capable of withstanding high temperatures without melting) in blast furnaces?
(A) Gypsum
(B) Rock Salt
(C) Mica
(D) Fireclay

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80. How is iron ore from the Kudremukh mines primarily transported to the Mangaluru port for export?
(A) Through dedicated multi-lane express highways
(B) Exclusively by domestic river navigation
(C) In the form of slurry through a pipeline
(D) By aerial ropeways

81. Aside from its primary use in steel manufacturing, manganese is also an essential raw material for producing:
(A) Concentrated sulphuric acid production
(B) Bleaching powder

(C) High-grade Portland cement manufacturing
(D) High-octane aviation fuel refining

82. Consider the following statements regarding coal types:
I. Peat has the highest carbon content and highest heating value.
II. Lignite is a low-grade brown coal, which is soft with high moisture content.
III. Bituminous coal is the most widely used coal in commercial applications.
IV. Anthracite is the hardest coal with the highest percentage of carbon.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

83. Regarding petroleum refining in India, which of the following statements is correct?
(A) India exports refined petroleum products while importing crude oil.
(B) All petroleum refining facilities operating in India are strictly owned and managed by the Central Government.
(C) The mega Jamnagar refinery complex operates as the largest public sector oil refinery facility in India.
(D) Total crude oil refining capacity across Indian industrial facilities has continuously stagnated since 2000.

84. When natural gas is found in underground reservoirs entirely devoid of crude oil, it is known as:
(A) Petroleum-associated reservoir gas
(B) Sour gas containing hydrogen sulfide
(C) Non-associated gas
(D) Unconventional shale gas reserves

85. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: Mining Center
P. Korba
Q. Khetri
R. Bailadila
S. Makrana
List II: Mineral Extracted
1. Iron Ore
2. Bauxite / Coal
3. Copper
4. Marble
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

86. The Chanderiya and Debari smelting complexes in Rajasthan are primarily associated with the processing of:
(A) Copper and Gold
(B) Iron and Steel
(C) Aluminium
(D) Lead and Zinc

87. High-grade limestone is specifically required in which of the following industrial applications?
(A) As a primary structural raw material for heavy kiln-fired brick manufacturing
(B) As a flux in iron smelting
(C) To produce commercial-grade plaster of Paris building materials
(D) As a foundational organic basic ingredient in the synthetic petrochemical industry

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88. Arrange the standard sequential phases of mineral exploration according to the UNFC (United Nations Framework Classification) guidelines from earliest to latest:
I. General Exploration (G2)
II. Reconnaissance (G4)
III. Detailed Exploration (G1)
IV. Prospecting (G3)
(A) II, IV, I, III
(B) IV, II, I, III
(C) II, I, IV, III
(D) I, II, III, IV

89. The 'Star Rating of Mines' system implemented by the Ministry of Mines aims to evaluate and promote which aspect of mining?
(A) The overall commercial profitability and annual net revenue generation of the mine
(B) The total vertical depth and engineering safety of all underground shafts
(C) The proportion of direct foreign investment secured by the mining company
(D) Sustainable and eco-friendly mining practices

90. Under the current mining regulations, a 'Mine Closure Plan' must be prepared by the lessee. What is the primary objective of this plan?
(A) To rehabilitate the mined area and mitigate post-extraction damage
(B) To safely abandon all active mining shafts without incurring any further operational or financial costs

(C) To automatically transfer ownership of the existing mining lease directly to a foreign commercial entity
(D) To permanently rezone and convert the entire extracted mining area into an urban residential zone

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ANSWERS

1. (B) A mineral that yields metal upon melting and generally has a shiny appearance
Metallic minerals are naturally occurring inorganic substances that contain one or more metallic elements in raw chemical form. These minerals are typically characterized by high density, a lustrous or shiny surface appearance, and high thermal and electrical conductivity. When processed through smelting, metallic minerals yield pure metals suitable for industrial manufacturing applications.

2. (D) Mica, Limestone, Gypsum
Non-metallic minerals are inorganic mineral resources that do not yield any extractable metals upon smelting or heating. This specific group consists of mica, limestone, and gypsum, all of which completely lack metallic properties. These non-metallic resources are widely utilized across various key sectors including building construction, cement manufacturing, chemical processing, and electrical insulation.

3. (A) Platinum
Metallic minerals are broadly categorized into ferrous, non-ferrous, and precious categories based on their chemical composition and economic value. Platinum is classified as a precious metallic mineral due to its high economic value, rarity in nature, and resistance to corrosion, standing alongside gold and silver as highly sought-after metals for industrial and financial uses.

4. (C) Magnetite
Magnetite is the finest quality iron ore, possessing a very high iron content of up to seventy percent. It exhibits superior magnetic properties, which makes it exceptionally valuable in the electrical and electromagnetic equipment industries. In contrast, hematite contains a slightly lower iron content ranging between sixty and seventy percent without strong inherent magnetism.

5. (A) Odisha-Jharkhand belt
The Badampahar iron ore mines are located in the Mayurbhanj district of Odisha, forming an essential component of the prominent Odisha-Jharkhand mineral belt. This region contains extensive deposits of high-grade hematite iron ore, which directly supply crucial raw materials to major integrated steel plants across eastern India, including the historic steel mills at Jamshedpur.

6. (D) Karnataka
The Kudremukh iron ore deposits are situated in the Western Ghats of the Chikkamagaluru district in the southern state of Karnataka. Known to be among the largest single iron ore deposits globally, these operations historically converted extracted ore into slurry form to transport it through pipelines directly to Mangaluru port for international export.

7. (B) Steel and alloy manufacturing
Manganese is a vital metallic raw material primarily used in the manufacturing of steel and ferro-manganese alloys. Roughly ten kilograms of manganese are required to process one tonne of steel, as it imparts essential structural strength, toughness, and durability to the metal while preventing oxidation and desulfurization during high-temperature refining operations.

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8. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
India possesses vast reserves of high-grade hematite and magnetite iron ore and exports significant quantities to international markets such as Japan, South Korea, and China. However, India also maintains a massive domestic steel industry with extensive production capacity, making the claim of lacking domestic industrial capacity entirely false and factually incorrect.

9. (D) Madhya Pradesh
Madhya Pradesh is recognized as the leading producer of manganese ore in India, contributing a significant percentage of the country's total annual output. Major manganese mining belts in the state are centered in the Balaghat and Chhindwara districts, producing high-grade ore extensively supplied to ferro-alloy plants across the domestic steel manufacturing sector.

10. (A) I and II only
Bauxite deposits form through the weathering and decomposition of surface rocks enriched

with aluminium silicates, with prominent fields situated in the Amarkantak plateau, Maikal hills, and Bilaspur-Katni region. Odisha is the leading national producer of bauxite in India, making the statement regarding Rajasthan being the primary producer factually inaccurate and incorrect.

11. (B) Bauxite
The Panchpatmali deposits situated in the Koraput district of Odisha are among the most valuable bauxite reserves in India. Odisha accounts for more than half of India's total bauxite production, with the Panchpatmali region functioning as a central supply hub for primary aluminium refineries currently operating within the eastern state.

12. (B) Regular and massive supply of cheap electricity
Aluminium extraction from alumina through electrolytic smelting requires enormous quantities of electrical energy, consuming thousands of kilowatt-hours per tonne of metal produced. Consequently, uninterrupted availability of affordable power serves as the decisive locational factor when selecting sites for primary aluminium smelting plants, often prioritizing proximity to hydroelectric or thermal generation units.

13. (A) High dielectric strength and low power loss
Mica is an invaluable non-metallic mineral in the electrical and electronics sector owing to its exceptional physical properties. It possesses high dielectric strength, a low power loss factor, excellent insulating performance, and resistance to high voltage and temperatures. These unique characteristics allow it to be easily split into thin, flexible, durable sheets.

14. (C) Mica
The Koderma-Gaya-Hazaribagh belt spanning northern Jharkhand and adjacent parts of Bihar is historically recognized as the world's leading producer of high-grade muscovite mica, often called ruby mica. The mineral occurs within pegmatite veins and has been mined extensively to supply both domestic manufacturing and international export demands across various global markets.

15. (D) IV only
In India, coal deposits belong to two primary geological ages: Gondwana, which supplies metallurgical bituminous coal from Damodar valley, and Tertiary, found in northeastern states. Anthracite represents the highest grade of coal with high carbon content, but it is extremely scarce in India, occurring exclusively in Jammu and Kashmir rather than peninsular regions.

16. (C) Gondwana System
Over ninety-eight percent of India's total coal reserves and almost the entire supply of metallurgical grade coal belong to the ancient Gondwana geological formation. These deposits are over two hundred million years old and are heavily concentrated along major river valleys, including the Damodar, Mahanadi, Godavari, and Sone river basins.

17. (B) Kalakot, Jammu and Kashmir
Anthracite is the premium variety of hard coal characterized by a high fixed carbon content exceeding eighty-five percent and minimal volatile matter. In India, anthracite reserves are extraordinarily limited and occur almost exclusively within the Tertiary rock formations located at Kalakot in the Rajouri district of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

18. (D) Assam
Digboi, Naharkatiya, and Moran-Hugrijan are famous onshore petroleum reservoirs located in the northeastern state of Assam. Digboi holds historical significance as the oldest operational oil field in India, where drilling commenced in the late nineteenth century, establishing Assam as the foundational cradle of the country's petroleum exploration and refining industry.

19. (A) The Central Government of India
The Mumbai High oil field is an offshore petroleum extraction structure located off the coast of Maharashtra in the Arabian Sea. Because off-shore natural resources situated within territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zones fall strictly under national sovereign jurisdiction, governance and regulation are exercised directly by the Central Government of India.

20. (C) Andhra Pradesh
The Krishna-Godavari (KG) basin is a major geological structure located off the eastern coast of Andhra Pradesh. The region contains massive deep-water offshore natural gas and petroleum reserves, which play an increasingly vital role in satisfying India's expanding clean energy demand

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through domestic hydrocarbon extraction and regional distribution pipeline networks.

21. (A) Kudremukh in Karnataka
Major copper extraction centers in India include the Balaghat mines in Madhya Pradesh, Khetri mines in Rajasthan, and Singhbhum district in Jharkhand. In contrast, Kudremukh in Karnataka is famous for its vast iron ore deposits and has never been associated with copper mining operations, making it distinct from major copper production zones.

22. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Different minerals correspond to key leading producer regions across India. Copper is predominantly mined in Madhya Pradesh, specifically around Malanjkhand. Bauxite reserves are dominated by Odisha. Lignite coal extraction is centered in Neyveli in Tamil Nadu, whereas mica production is heavily concentrated in Nellore and surrounding districts of Andhra Pradesh.

23. (B) Jhunjhunu
The Khetri Copper Complex is situated in the Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan along the foothills of the Aravalli range. Established under Hindustan Copper Limited, this facility handles subterranean mining, ore beneficiation, and refining, serving as one of India's historical hubs for domestic copper extraction and essential domestic industrial metal production.

24. (C) Lead and Zinc
The Zawar mines, situated near Udaipur in Rajasthan, are world-renowned for their vast deposits of lead and zinc ores. Operated primarily by Hindustan Zinc Limited, this mineral complex represents one of the oldest recorded mining sites globally, continuously supplying raw materials for domestic galena and sphalerite industrial metal refining operations.

25. (A) Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat
In terms of geological reserves of bauxite in India, Odisha ranks first with vast deposits in Koraput and Rayagada. Andhra Pradesh holds the second largest reserves, primarily located in the Visakhapatnam and East Godavari belts, followed by Gujarat, which possesses substantial reserves along its coastal Jamnagar and Junagadh district belts.

26. (A) Limestone
Limestone, composed mainly of calcium carbonate, serves as a primary non-metallic raw material for the cement industry. Additionally, it functions as an essential flux in blast furnaces during iron smelting, reactively combining with silica impurities present in iron ore to produce liquid slag that floats and separates easily from molten iron.

27. (B) Wollastonite and Jasper
Rajasthan enjoys a near total production monopoly in India for specific specialized non-metallic minerals, notably wollastonite and jasper. Wollastonite is widely utilized in ceramics, plastics, and friction products due to its acicular particle shape, while jasper is extracted as an ornamental and decorative gemstone abundant across the state's rock formations.

28. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Smelting alumina into metallic aluminium requires an extraordinary amount of electrical power during the Hall-Héroult electrolytic process, consuming roughly thirteen to fifteen megawatt-hours per tonne. Because electricity accounts for a major portion of overall production costs, plants are intentionally located near cheap power plants, directly validating both statements and their logical relationship.

29. (A) Promoting private exploration and sustainable mining
The National Mineral Policy 2019 aims to modernize the mining sector by encouraging private investment in mineral exploration, simplifying regulatory approvals, establishing dedicated mineral corridors, and adopting sustainable development frameworks. It focuses on ensuring inter-generational equity, environmental protection, and enhanced transparency in the allocation of mineral resources across the nation.

NODIA

30. (C) To work for the benefit of mining-affected persons and areas
District Mineral Foundations are non-profit statutory trusts mandated under the Mines and Minerals Development and Regulation Amendment Act. Mining leaseholders contribute a fixed percentage of royalties into these funds, which are directly allocated to implement local development projects, improve healthcare,

expand education, and clean drinking water in mining-affected local rural communities.

31. (D) Promote detailed mineral exploration nationwide
The National Mineral Exploration Trust was established as a statutory body under the MMDR Amendment Act to fund baseline geological mapping, advanced geophysical surveys, and mineral exploration projects across India. It collects a mandatory contribution from mining leaseholders equivalent to two percent of royalties to accelerate mineral discovery and mapping operations.

32. (A) I and II only
Uncontrolled mineral extraction causes extensive environmental degradation, deforestation, loss of topsoil, and severe water contamination through acid mine drainage when sulfide minerals oxidize. Unregulated subterranean shaft mining often leaves void spaces that trigger ground subsidence, proving that underground operations do not eliminate land collapse risks and invalidating the third statement.

33. (B) Meghalaya
Rat-hole mining is an unscientific and highly dangerous manual extraction method prevalent in the state of Meghalaya. Miners dig extremely narrow horizontal tunnels into hillside coal seams to extract coal manually. The practice poses extreme safety hazards, causing frequent structural collapses and mine flooding, while severely polluting local rivers with acid runoff.

34. (D) Odisha
Odisha ranks as the leading state in India for metallic mineral production, contributing the largest share to national output. The eastern state holds vast deposits of hematite iron ore, bauxite, chromite, and manganese. Minerals extracted from regions like Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Sundargarh, and Koraput fuel significant industrial metallurgical manufacturing operations nationwide.

35. (A) It contains major reserves of metallurgical Gondwana coal.
Rajasthan possesses an abundance of non-metallic minerals, currently leading the entire country in zinc, lead, gypsum, marble, and cement-grade limestone. However, the western state completely lacks major reserves of metallurgical Gondwana coal, which are instead concentrated in eastern Peninsular states like Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, and Chhattisgarh in eastern India.

36. (C) Copper
While India maintains massive reserves and surplus export capacity for iron ore, bauxite, and manganese, it suffers from a severe deficit in domestic copper deposits. Consequently, India relies heavily on foreign imports of refined copper metal and unrefined copper concentrates to meet its expanding power grid and industrial manufacturing requirements.

37. (A) Visakhapatnam
Visakhapatnam Port, located along the eastern coast in Andhra Pradesh, handles the highest volume of iron ore exports in India. It is equipped with specialized mechanized deep-water berths designed specifically to handle high-grade hematite iron ore transported from the major mining fields of the Durg-Bastar-Chandrapur mining belt in central India.

38. (A) I, II, and IV only
Monazite beach sands found along coastal stretches of Kerala and Tamil Nadu are rich in rare earth elements and contain radioactive thorium. These minerals are vital for high-tech manufacturing, electronics, and permanent magnets. The third claim stating that these coastal sands are poor in rare earth mineral deposits is factually false.

39. (B) Bulk manufacturing of standard Portland cement
Rare Earth Elements are critical functional components in modern technologies, including smartphones, wind turbine permanent magnets, display screens, laser devices, and advanced aerospace technologies. Standard Portland cement, in contrast, is manufactured in bulk using abundant structural raw materials such as limestone, clay, silica, and gypsum, without requiring any rare earth elements.

40. (C) Madhya Pradesh
The Panna diamond mining belt is situated in the state of Madhya Pradesh, extending across the Panna and Chhatarpur districts. Managed primarily by the National Mineral Development Corporation, it represents the sole operational center in India producing industrial and gem-

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grade diamonds from primary ultramafic kimberlite pipes and secondary alluvial gravels.

41. (D) Kolkata
The Geological Survey of India, first established in 1851, is a premier national scientific agency functioning under the Ministry of Mines. Headquartered in Kolkata, West Bengal, it conducts systematic geological mapping, airborne geophysical surveys, and regional mineral resource assessments across the Indian landmass and adjacent offshore oceanic territorial maritime zones.

42. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
India's mineral belts exhibit distinct geological characteristics. The North-Eastern Plateau possesses abundant coal, iron ore, and bauxite. The South-Western Plateau contains iron ore and bauxite while completely lacking coal. The North-Western region features non-ferrous minerals like copper and zinc, whereas the Himalayan belt holds scattered metallic occurrences with poor accessibility.

43. (B) Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)
The Indian Bureau of Mines is a subordinate organization under the Ministry of Mines. It is charged with regulating mining operations, promoting conservation, scientific development of mineral resources, and monitoring environmental impact across non-fuel, non-coal major mineral leases through regular inspections, approval of mine plans, and rigorous statutory regulatory oversight.

44. (B) 200 nautical miles from the baseline
Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea provisions, coastal nations are granted sovereign rights to explore, exploit, conserve, and manage living and non-living natural resources within their Exclusive Economic Zone. This zone extends up to two hundred nautical miles measured outward from the official territorial baseline.

45. (A) Manganese, nickel, copper, cobalt
Polymetallic nodules, commonly called manganese nodules, are potato-shaped mineral deposits covering deep abyssal ocean floors. India has acquired exclusive mining exploration rights in the Central Indian Ocean Basin over seventy-five thousand square kilometers. These nodules contain rich concentrations of manganese, nickel, copper, and critical strategic metals like cobalt for advanced industrial manufacturing.

46. (C) Dry cell batteries and bleaching powder
Beyond its principal application in iron and steel metallurgy, manganese serves as an essential raw material in chemical and consumer product manufacturing. Manganese dioxide is extensively used as a depolarizer in zinc-carbon dry cell batteries, while manganese compounds act as oxidants in manufacturing bleaching powder, insecticides, paints, and clear glass.

47. (D) Flux to remove silica impurities
In blast furnace operations during iron smelting, limestone is added along with iron ore and coke to act as a chemical flux. At elevated temperatures, limestone decomposes into calcium oxide, which chemically reacts with insoluble silica impurities present in iron ore to form molten calcium silicate slag, effectively purifying the iron.

48. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
India imports over eighty percent of its total domestic crude petroleum requirements to satisfy rapidly rising fuel demands driven by industrial expansion, urban transport, and power generation. Domestic extraction from sedimentary basins remains insufficient to keep pace with national consumption growth, making the reason a direct explanation for the assertion.

49. (B) Coal
Coal is a non-metallic, organic, and combustible sedimentary rock formed over millions of years through the decay, burial, and compaction of dense plant matter under immense geological heat and pressure. Unlike minerals of inorganic origin, coal contains stored chemical carbon energy, enabling it to burn directly to generate thermal power.

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50. (A) III, II, I, IV
Coal varieties are classified by their fixed carbon content and heat output resulting from organic metamorphism. Peat has the lowest carbon percentage (under forty percent carbon), followed by lignite (forty to fifty-five percent), bituminous (sixty to eighty percent), and anthracite, which contains the highest fixed carbon content exceeding eighty-five percent.

51. (A) Japan
The Bailadila hill range located in the Dantewada district of Chhattisgarh holds super high-grade hematite iron ore deposits. Iron ore extracted from Bailadila is transported via railway networks directly to the deep-water Visakhapatnam port, from where it is primarily exported to East Asian nations, predominantly Japan and South Korea for industrial manufacturing.

52. (C) Karnataka
The Bellary-Chitradurga-Chikkamagaluru-Tumakuru iron ore belt is situated in the prominent southern state of Karnataka. This region holds deposits of vast high-grade hematite and magnetite iron ore, featuring famous reserves like Kudremukh and Sandur, which actively supply steel manufacturing units across southern India as well as demanding global export markets.

53. (A) Odisha
Although Madhya Pradesh currently accounts for the highest annual volume of manganese ore production in India, Odisha holds the largest cumulative share of total estimated manganese reserves in the country. Key manganese belts in Odisha are distributed across the Sundargarh, Keonjhar, and Rayagada districts, containing major high-grade industrial ore reserves.

54. (A) I and II only
Bauxite is the primary ore processed into alumina, which is subsequently smelted into lightweight, strong, corrosion-resistant aluminium alloy extensively used in aerospace, automobile, and structural manufacturing. However, bauxite is mined primarily through surface open-cast methods rather than deep underground extraction, causing significant surface land disturbances and making statement III incorrect.

55. (B) Andhra Pradesh
The Nellore mica belt is situated in the state of Andhra Pradesh, spanning a long coastal strip across the Nellore district. Famous for producing premium quality muscovite mica known as ruby mica, this belt features extensive pegmatite formations that have historically supplied high-grade electrical insulating sheets to domestic and global markets.

56. (C) Bhilwara and Ajmer
In Rajasthan, primary mica mining and processing operations are heavily concentrated across a continuous central corridor encompassing the Bhilwara, Ajmer, Udaipur, and Jaipur districts. Bhilwara serves as the principal hub of mica extraction and processing in the state, producing high-dielectric mica sheets used widely across the electrical equipment manufacturing sector.

57. (D) Jharkhand
The Jharia coalfield is situated in the Dhanbad district of Jharkhand, functioning as the premier coal extraction site in India. It is uniquely valuable because it contains the nation's largest reserves of prime coking coal, which is essential as a reducing fuel agent for thermal processing in integrated steel blast furnaces.

58. (A) Palana and Barsingsar
Lignite, often referred to as brown coal, is a lower-grade fossil fuel characterized by high moisture content and lower carbon energy density. In Rajasthan, major lignite extraction fields are centered in the Bikaner district at Palana and Barsingsar, supplying fuel to nearby pithead thermal power stations for regional electricity generation.

59. (B) Assam
Assam is recognized as the pioneer and oldest petroleum-producing state in India, where commercial crude oil extraction originated. The discovery of oil at Digboi in the late nineteenth century led to the commissioning of India's first refinery in 1901, establishing Assam as an essential historic hub for the national hydrocarbon industry.

60. (B) I, II, and IV only
Natural gas burns cleanly with lower carbon dioxide emissions compared to coal, making Compressed Natural Gas an ideal alternative transport fuel in cities. The Hazira-Vijaipur-Jagdishpur pipeline serves as India's pioneer cross-state natural gas corridor. Natural gas occurs both associated with petroleum and as standalone non-associated fields, rendering statement III false.

61. (A) Methane
Methane is the primary chemical constituent of natural gas, typically making up seventy to over ninety percent of its total volume.

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Because methane burns efficiently with high energy output while releasing significantly lower amounts of carbon dioxide and harmful atmospheric pollutants compared to complex hydrocarbons, it serves as an ideal clean fuel.

62. (A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
Oil and gas fields map to specific geographical locations across India. Ankleshwar is a major onshore petroleum field situated in Gujarat. Digboi represents the historic petroleum basin in Assam. Mangala is a large onshore oil field located in the Barmer basin of Rajasthan, whereas Bassein is a prominent offshore gas field near Mumbai.

63. (D) Madhya Pradesh
The Malanjkhand copper deposit is located in the Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh, operating under Hindustan Copper Limited. Featuring a large open-cast mine developed over a massive quartz reef, Malanjkhand holds India's largest single copper ore reserve and accounts for a major share of domestic primary copper metal ore production.

64. (C) Gold
The Hutti and Kolar mines, situated in the southern state of Karnataka, are historically and geologically celebrated for gold extraction. The Kolar Gold Fields functioned as one of the world's deepest subterranean mines before operations ceased, while Hutti in Raichur district remains active as India's primary operational gold extraction center.

65. (B) Sedimentary rocks
Limestone is composed primarily of calcium carbonate and forms within sedimentary rock sequences through organic marine organism shell accumulation or direct inorganic chemical precipitation. These extensive sedimentary strata occur across diverse geological formations in India, providing accessible open-pit raw material extraction sites for cement production and metallurgical industrial flux processing.

66. (D) 100%
Under current Indian government policy guidelines and FDI norms, up to one hundred percent Foreign Direct Investment is allowed under the automatic route for mining and exploration of non-fuel and non-atomic minerals. This policy simplifies approval processes, encouraging global mining companies to invest modern technologies and capital into domestic extraction.

67. (A) Transparent competitive e-auction
The Mines and Minerals Development and Regulation Amendment Act of 2015 introduced a major structural reform by mandating transparent competitive e-auctions for allocating mining leases and prospecting-cum-mining leases. This statutory reform eliminated discretionary government allocation, ensuring market-driven price discovery, enhanced operational transparency, and increased state revenue from valuable domestic mineral resources.

68. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Mica is irreplaceable in manufacturing electrical capacitors, insulators, and electronic components because it withstands exceptionally high voltages without undergoing electrical breakdown. Its high dielectric strength, low power loss, and resistance to heat explain why it is used so widely in electrical insulation, confirming both statements and their direct logical connection.

69. (A) Coal and sulfide ores
Acid Mine Drainage occurs when sulfide minerals, such as pyrite present in coal seams and metallic sulfide deposits, are exposed to oxygen and water during mining operations. Chemical oxidation produces runoff containing high levels of sulfuric acid and dissolved heavy metals, severely acidifying adjacent aquatic ecosystems and contaminating nearby drinking groundwater supplies.

70. (A) Paradip, Visakhapatnam, Chennai
Arranged along the eastern coast of India from North to South, Paradip Port is situated in Odisha, Visakhapatnam Port is located further south in Andhra Pradesh, and Chennai Port lies near the southern extremity in Tamil Nadu. All three ports play crucial roles in handling bulk domestic and international iron ore maritime trade.

71. (B) Chota Nagpur Plateau
The Chota Nagpur Plateau, spanning parts of Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, and Chhattisgarh, is known as the "Ruhr of India." This title draws comparison to Germany's mineral-rich Ruhr valley because of the plateau's

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dense concentration of major coalfields, high-grade iron ore reserves, manganese deposits, bauxite mines, and integrated metallurgical manufacturing industries.

72. (C) India exports iron ore but imports coking coal.
India possesses vast reserves of hematite iron ore and exports surplus quantities to major Asian markets. However, due to limited domestic reserves of high-grade metallurgical coking coal necessary for steelmaking in blast furnaces, Indian steel producers rely heavily on coking coal imports from countries like Australia, Indonesia, and South Africa.

73. (D) Lanthanides
Rare Earth Elements consist of seventeen essential chemically similar metallic elements, comprising fifteen lanthanides—ranging from lanthanum to lutetium on the periodic table—along with scandium and yttrium. These elements exhibit unique magnetic, luminescent, and electrochemical properties, making them indispensable for advanced technological applications, permanent magnets, catalysts, and modern consumer electronics manufacturing.

74. (A) India Rare Earths Limited (IREL)
India Rare Earths Limited is a public sector enterprise operating under the administrative control of the Department of Atomic Energy. It is authorized to process heavy mineral beach sands found along the coasts of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Odisha to extract strategic minerals, rare earth compounds, and radioactive elements like thorium.

75. (B) Kimberlite pipes
Primary natural diamond deposits are found within volcanic rock formations known as kimberlite and lamproite pipes. These deep-seated igneous structures intruded from the Earth's mantle under high pressure and temperature, bringing diamonds toward the surface. Secondary diamond occurrences are found downstream in alluvial gravel beds formed by natural fluvial erosion.

76. (B) I and III only
The Geological Survey of India is responsible for macro-level scientific geological mapping, geophysical surveys, and mineral resource assessments, publishing maps and exploration data for national use. However, GSI does not grant commercial mining leases; lease allocation is governed by state governments and statutory regulatory bodies, rendering statement II factually false.

77. (A) ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL)
ONGC Videsh Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, operating as India's flagship international petroleum company. Its principal objective is acquiring oil and natural gas equity assets in international sedimentary basins worldwide, enhancing national energy security by securing foreign hydrocarbon supplies for domestic refining and processing.

78. (C) Alumina
In the industrial processing of bauxite ore to pure aluminium, alumina is extracted as an intermediate compound via the Bayer process. During this chemical refining stage, raw bauxite is digested in caustic soda to produce pure white aluminium oxide powder, which is subsequently reduced to metallic aluminium through electrolytic smelting.

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79. (D) Fireclay
Fireclay is an alumino-silicate non-metallic mineral valued for its exceptional refractory properties, enabling it to withstand temperatures far exceeding fifteen hundred degrees Celsius without melting or deforming. It is extensively used to manufacture refractory bricks for lining high-temperature industrial furnaces, blast furnaces, kilns, and heavy metallurgical ladles across steel plants.

80. (C) In the form of slurry through a pipeline
Iron ore extracted from the Kudremukh deposits in Karnataka was historically processed into fine concentrate, mixed with water to form a slurry, and transported via a specialized underground pipeline directly to New Mangalore Port. This slurry pipeline provided an efficient, economical, and environmentally continuous transport mode through challenging mountainous terrain.

81. (B) Bleaching powder
Manganese is an essential chemical agent utilized beyond iron and steel metallurgy. Manganese dioxide is extensively consumed as an oxidative reagent in manufacturing bleaching powder, dry cell electric batteries, agricultural insecticides,

glass decolorizers, and specialized chemical paints, making it a highly versatile metallic raw material for industrial chemical manufacturing processes.

82. (B) II, III, and IV only
Lignite is soft brown coal with high moisture and lower carbon, bituminous coal is the most widely utilized energy resource commercially, and anthracite represents the hardest variety with maximum fixed carbon content. Peat contains the lowest carbon content and heat output among all organic stages, making statement I factually incorrect.

83. (A) India exports refined petroleum products while importing crude oil.
India has built massive domestic petroleum refining capacity exceeding its domestic oil consumption. Consequently, India imports large volumes of raw crude oil, refines it using sophisticated modern facilities like the Jamnagar complex, and exports high-value refined petroleum products, including diesel, petrol, and jet fuel, to various international consumer markets globally.

84. (C) Non-associated gas
Underground natural gas accumulation that occurs in isolation within geological reservoirs completely unattached to crude oil deposits is termed non-associated gas. In contrast, associated gas occurs dissolved in or caps crude oil reservoirs. Non-associated gas reservoirs are tapped purely for extracting dry gaseous hydrocarbons without producing any liquid crude oil.

85. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
Specific mining centers across India are uniquely linked with extracted mineral resources. Korba in Chhattisgarh is famous for coal mining and bauxite deposits. Khetri in Rajasthan is historically renowned for copper extraction. Bailadila in Chhattisgarh contains high-grade iron ore mines, while Makrana in Rajasthan produces world-famous high-quality decorative white marble.

86. (D) Lead and Zinc
The Chanderiya and Debari smelting complexes, situated in Chittorgarh and Udaipur districts of Rajasthan respectively, are operated by Hindustan Zinc Limited. These industrial complexes are among the largest facilities in India dedicated to the pyro-metallurgical and hydro-metallurgical extraction, refining, and smelting of non-ferrous essential zinc and lead metals in western India.

87. (B) As a flux in iron smelting
High-grade limestone is essential in metallurgical steel production, serving as a basic fluxing agent during iron ore reduction in blast furnaces. It reacts chemically with acidic impurities, such as silica and alumina, converting them into a molten slag that floats above liquid iron and is easily removed during smelting operations.

88. (A) II, IV, I, III
Under United Nations Framework Classification guidelines for mineral resource assessment, exploration progresses through four sequential stages: Reconnaissance stage G4 involving regional surveys, Prospecting stage G3 involving localized geological mapping, General Exploration stage G2 measuring deposit dimensions, and Detailed Exploration stage G1 establishing precise structural continuity and overall economic extraction feasibility.

89. (D) Sustainable and eco-friendly mining practices
The Indian Ministry of Mines launched the Star Rating system for mineral leases under the Sustainable Development Framework. This initiative evaluates mining operators across eco-friendly practices, systematic resource conservation, progressive mine reclamation, air and water pollution mitigation, local community welfare programs, and strict compliance with environmental mandatory regulatory legal standards.

90. (A) To rehabilitate the mined area and mitigate post-extraction damage
Under statutory mining regulations in India, a comprehensive Mine Closure Plan is mandatory for all leaseholders. The primary objective is to rehabilitate degraded land, restore vegetation cover, stabilize disturbed slopes, safeguard abandoned pits, prevent soil erosion, control water contamination, and restore natural ecological balance after industrial extraction operations permanently cease.

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CHAPTER 07
Energy Resources of India

1. Which of the following energy sources is classified as a conventional and commercial source of energy in India?
(A) Solar Energy
(B) Coal
(C) Fuelwood
(D) Biogas

2. Identify the incorrect statement regarding conventional sources of energy.
(A) They include wind, tidal, and geothermal energy.
(B) They are typically exhaustible in nature.
(C) Their prolonged use contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions.
(D) They have traditionally formed the base load for India's power generation.

3. Which of the following is considered a non-commercial but conventional source of energy in rural India?
(A) Natural Gas
(B) Petroleum
(C) Animal Dung
(D) Lignite

4. What is the defining characteristic of non-conventional sources of energy?
(A) They can only be utilized for heavy industrial applications.
(B) They are derived purely from fossilized plant and animal matter.
(C) They have been used extensively for electricity generation since the industrial revolution.
(D) They are continuously replenished by natural processes and are generally inexhaustible.

5. Which among the following does NOT fall under the category of non-conventional energy resources?
(A) Photovoltaic solar power systems
(B) Fast breeder nuclear reactor systems
(C) Natural gas combined cycle plants
(D) Ocean thermal energy conversion systems

6. Why is there a strategic policy shift in India towards non-conventional energy resources?
(A) Due to the complete exhaustion of domestic coal reserves across all major mining sectors.
(B) To ensure long-term energy security, reduce fuel import dependency, and meet climate goals.
(C) Because non-conventional energy installations require minimal capital and operational investment.
(D) Because conventional fossil fuel power plants are technically incapable of supporting grid loads.

7. Identify the correct pair of energy source and its classification.
(A) Petroleum - Non-conventional, Commercial
(B) Solar - Conventional, Commercial
(C) Peat Coal - Non-conventional, Non-commercial
(D) Wind - Non-conventional, Commercial

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8. Which state in India holds the largest reserves of coal but is often surpassed by other states in annual coal production?
(A) Jharkhand
(B) Chhattisgarh
(C) Odisha
(D) Madhya Pradesh

9. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Thermal power constitutes the largest share of India's total installed power generation capacity.
Reason (R): India possesses vast geological reserves of high-grade anthracite coal, making it a highly efficient base for thermal power.
Select the correct option from the following:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

10. Under the Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPP) scheme of the Government of India, what is the minimum installed capacity mandated for a project to qualify as a UMPP?
(A) 1000 MW
(B) 2000 MW
(C) 4000 MW
(D) 5000 MW

11. Suratgarh Super Thermal Power Station, which is a major contributor to base load power in Rajasthan, primarily utilizes which type of fuel?
(A) Natural Gas fuel
(B) Lignite type coal
(C) Enriched uranium
(D) Bituminous coal

12. Consider the following statements regarding hydroelectric power in India:
I. The Brahmaputra basin holds the highest commercially exploitable hydroelectric potential in India.
II. Hydroelectric plants are generally used to meet the peak load demand due to their quick start and stop capabilities.
III. Small hydro projects up to 25 MW capacity are classified as renewable energy under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

13. Which is the highest operating hydroelectric dam in India, featuring a significant pumped-storage capability?
(A) Bhakra Dam
(B) Hirakud Dam
(C) Tehri Dam
(D) Sardar Sarovar Dam

14. What does the term "Run-of-the-river" project generally imply in the context of hydroelectricity?
(A) A power project designed to divert a main river stream into dedicated artificial canals for navigation.
(B) A hydroelectric plant that operates exclusively during heavy monsoon seasons when river channels flood.
(C) A specialized project engineered to pump groundwater from deep aquifers into nearby surface rivers.
(D) A facility that generates electricity using the natural flow of a river with little to no water storage.

15. Which of the following hydroelectric projects is NOT shared by or located within Rajasthan?
(A) Nathpa Jhakri
(B) Mahi Bajaj Sagar
(C) Rana Pratap Sagar
(D) Jawahar Sagar

16. Match List I with List II regarding nuclear power plants in India:
List I: Nuclear Power Plant
P. Rawatbhata
Q. Kakrapar
R. Kaiga
S. Kudankulam
List II: State
1. Karnataka
2. Tamil Nadu
3. Rajasthan
4. Gujarat
Select the correct code:
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

17. The Rawatbhata Nuclear Power Plant in Rajasthan operates primarily on which type of reactor technology?
(A) Commercial Boiling Water Reactor (BWR)
(B) Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR)
(C) Fast Breeder Nuclear Reactor (FBR)
(D) Light Water Graphite-Moderated Reactor (LWGR)

18. Which is the largest nuclear power station in India in terms of total installed capacity?
(A) Kudankulam Power Station
(B) Tarapur Atomic Power Station
(C) Rajasthan Atomic Power Station
(D) Narora Atomic Power Station

19. Identify the incorrect statement regarding nuclear energy in India.
(A) Nuclear power currently serves as the fifth-largest primary source of commercial electricity generation in India.
(B) India has maintained its status as a non-signatory state to the international Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.
(C) Uranium for domestic nuclear reactors is mined entirely within India, eliminating any

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reliance on imports.
(D) The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) is the premier multi-disciplinary nuclear research centre of India.

20. Who among the following formulated India's three-stage nuclear power programme?
(A) A. P. J. Abdul Kalam
(B) Vikram Sarabhai
(C) Satish Dhawan
(D) Homi J. Bhabha

21. Consider the following statements about India's three-stage nuclear program:
I. Stage 1 involves the use of Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors fueled by natural uranium.
II. Stage 2 employs Fast Breeder Reactors utilizing plutonium extracted from Stage 1.
III. Stage 3 focuses on Advanced Heavy Water Reactors using thorium-232 to produce fissile uranium-233.
IV. India has currently fully commercialized Stage 3 and generates most of its nuclear power from thorium.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, III and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

22. India has vast reserves of Thorium, which is essential for the third stage of its nuclear programme. This mineral is predominantly found in:
(A) The extensive coal mining regions of Jharkhand
(B) The monazite sands along the Kerala coastline
(C) The major lignite mineral deposits of Tamil Nadu
(D) The rich copper mines of Khetri in Rajasthan

23. The Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) was launched in which year with the objective of establishing India as a global leader in solar energy?
(A) 2008
(B) 2010
(C) 2014
(D) 2015

24. What was the revised target set by the Government of India for installed solar power capacity to be achieved by the year 2022?
(A) 20 GW
(B) 50 GW
(C) 100 GW
(D) 175 GW

25. Which of the following sequences represents the correct descending order of Indian states by total installed solar power capacity as per recent data?
(A) Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka
(B) Rajasthan, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu
(C) Karnataka, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra
(D) Rajasthan, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat

26. The Bhadla Solar Park, recognized as one of the largest solar parks in the world, is located in which district of Rajasthan?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Jaisalmer
(C) Bikaner
(D) Barmer

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27. Pavagada Solar Park, a massive project capable of generating over 2000 MW of power, is situated in which state?
(A) Andhra Pradesh
(B) Telangana
(C) Maharashtra
(D) Karnataka

28. Identify the incorrect pair regarding major solar parks and their respective states.
(A) Kurnool Ultra Mega Solar Park - Andhra Pradesh
(B) Kamuthi Solar Power Project - Rajasthan
(C) Rewa Ultra Mega Solar - Madhya Pradesh
(D) Charanka Solar Park - Gujarat

29. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Rajasthan holds the highest installed solar energy capacity in India.
Reason (R): Rajasthan benefits from high solar radiation, low rainfall, and the availability of vast tracts of barren wasteland suitable for solar parks.
Select the correct option from the following:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

30. The Muppandal Wind Farm, which is the largest operational onshore wind farm in India, is located in:
(A) Gujarat
(B) Maharashtra
(C) Kerala
(D) Tamil Nadu

31. What is generally considered the minimum average wind speed required to generate electricity commercially using wind turbines?
(A) 1 - 2 m/s
(B) 4 - 5 m/s
(C) 10 - 12 m/s
(D) 15 - 20 m/s

32. Which of the following statements about wind energy in India is most accurate?
(A) India's geographical wind power potential is concentrated almost exclusively within the high-altitude Himalayan region.
(B) Gujarat and Tamil Nadu consistently rank as the top two states in total installed wind power capacity.
(C) Wind power generation across Indian states remains steady and uniform throughout all months of the calendar year.
(D) Offshore wind power installations currently account for well over 50% of India's total overall wind energy generation.

33. According to recent assessments by the Global Wind Energy Council, where does India approximately rank globally in terms of total installed wind power capacity?
(A) First
(B) Fourth
(C) Seventh
(D) Tenth

34. Biomass gasification is a process that converts solid biomass into a combustible gas mixture. What is this resultant gas mixture commonly known as?
(A) Producer Gas (Syngas)
(B) Natural Gas
(C) Liquefied Petroleum Gas
(D) Compressed Natural Gas

35. Consider the following statements regarding Biomass Energy in India:
I. Bagasse, a byproduct of the sugar industry, is extensively used for cogeneration of power.
II. Biomass power generation offers a continuous supply of electricity unlike solar or wind power.
III. Burning biomass residues directly in open fields is the most efficient method for generating grid-connected electricity.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I only
(B) I and II only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

36. Which element constitutes the primary chemical base of all biomass energy resources?
(A) Silicon
(B) Nitrogen
(C) Phosphorus
(D) Carbon

37. What is the major combustible component of biogas generated through anaerobic digestion of organic matter?
(A) Hydrogen sulphide
(B) Carbon dioxide
(C) Methane
(D) Ammonia

38. Apart from providing cooking fuel and lighting, what is a significant secondary agricultural benefit of a rural biogas plant?
(A) It generates steady high-pressure steam suitable for running modern agricultural tractor engines.
(B) The leftover digestate slurry serves as a valuable nitrogen-rich organic fertilizer for crop soil.
(C) It completely purifies highly saline underground water sources making them suitable for farm irrigation.
(D) It directly yields effective synthetic pesticides and chemical compounds that protect standing crops.

39. Match List I with List II regarding bio-energy processes:
List I: Bio-energy Process
P. Anaerobic digestion
Q. Pyrolysis
R. Fermentation
S. Direct combustion
List II: Description
1. Burning biomass in the presence of air to produce heat
2. Decomposition of organic matter by bacteria in the absence of oxygen

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3. Thermal decomposition of biomass in the total absence of oxygen to produce bio-oil and char
4. Biological process converting sugars into ethanol

Select the correct code:
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

40. Which region in India possesses the highest estimated potential for tidal energy generation due to its large tidal ranges?
(A) Gulf of Khambhat
(B) The Gulf of Mannar
(C) The Palk Strait
(D) The Chilika Lake

41. Tidal energy generation is most effective during which specific lunar phase, when the tidal range is at its maximum?
(A) Neap tides during quarter moons
(B) Only during lunar eclipses
(C) Spring tides during full and new moons
(D) Tides are unaffected by lunar phases for energy generation

42. Arrange the following locations in India in descending order of their estimated tidal energy potential:
1. Gulf of Kutch
2. Sunderbans Delta
3. Gulf of Khambhat

Which of the following is the correct order?
(A) 3, 1, 2
(B) 1, 3, 2
(C) 3, 2, 1
(D) 2, 1, 3

43. Puga Valley, recognized as one of the most promising geothermal energy sites in India, is situated in:
(A) Himachal Pradesh
(B) Uttarakhand
(C) Sikkim
(D) Ladakh

44. Identify the incorrect statement regarding geothermal energy.
(A) It utilizes thermal heat stored within the Earth's interior for continuous electrical power generation.
(B) It is highly dependent on daily weather variations and ambient solar irradiance.
(C) Geothermal power installations provide a dependable and stable base load supply of grid electricity.
(D) India's total potential geothermal energy capacity is roughly estimated to be around 10,000 MW.

45. The Manikaran geothermal field, known for its hot springs and potential for binary cycle power plants, is located in which state?
(A) Jammu and Kashmir
(B) Arunachal Pradesh
(C) Himachal Pradesh
(D) Meghalaya

46. Consider the following statements regarding potential geothermal sites in India:
I. Tattapani geothermal field is located in Chhattisgarh.
II. Cambay Graben is a prominent geothermal province in Gujarat.
III. Chumathang is a recognized geothermal site in the Himalayas.
IV. The Thar Desert in Rajasthan holds India's largest active geysers.

Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, III and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

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47. In India's total installed power capacity, which sector continues to hold the dominant majority share?
(A) Thermal (Coal, Lignite, Gas, Diesel)
(B) Non-hydro Renewable Energy Sources
(C) Grid-connected Hydroelectricity Projects
(D) Commercial Nuclear Energy Stations

48. Which sector accounts for the highest percentage of total commercial electricity consumption in India?
(A) Agriculture
(B) Industrial
(C) Domestic / Residential
(D) Commercial / Services

49. Which of the following is the most accurate depiction of the changing energy mix of India over the last decade?
(A) A complete and immediate phase-out of all operating coal-fired thermal power generation plants across India.

(B) A gradual drop in fossil fuel share alongside rapid expansion in solar and wind capacity.
(C) A steady decline in overall renewable energy installations coupled with a major surge in nuclear capacity.
(D) A total structural replacement of natural gas and petroleum power plants with tidal and ocean energy systems.

50. In the context of electricity generation, which pair appropriately represents a typical base-load power source and a peak-load power source respectively?
(A) Coal Thermal and Pumped Hydro Storage
(B) Solar Photovoltaic and Nuclear Power
(C) Utility-scale Wind and Biomass Plants
(D) Run-of-the-river Hydro and Geothermal Systems

51. In which year was the Energy Conservation Act enacted by the Government of India, establishing a legal framework for energy efficiency?
(A) 1995
(B) 2001
(C) 2010
(D) 2015

52. The mandatory Star Labeling program for electrical appliances, which guides consumers on energy efficiency, is administered by which statutory body?
(A) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
(B) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC)
(C) NITI Aayog
(D) Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)

53. What is the primary objective of the PAT (Perform, Achieve and Trade) scheme implemented in India?
(A) To provide fully subsidized solar power installations and energy equipment to all registered small-scale rural industries.
(B) To mandate agricultural and forestry sectors across all states to trade their surplus crop residue biomass in open markets.
(C) To boost industrial energy efficiency via a market-based trading mechanism for energy saving certificates.
(D) To regulate and streamline cross-border high-voltage grid electricity trade agreements with all neighboring Asian countries.

54. The 'Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana', launched to achieve universal household electrification in both rural and urban areas, is popularly known as:
(A) The UDAY Scheme
(B) Saubhagya Scheme
(C) The PM-KUSUM Scheme
(D) The UJALA Scheme

55. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) specifically emphasizes the separation of agricultural and non-agricultural feeders.
Reason (R): Feeder separation allows for judicial rostering of power, ensuring adequate supply to farmers and continuous supply to rural households.
Select the correct option from the following:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

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56. The PM-KUSUM scheme primarily focuses on integrating renewable energy with which vital sector?
(A) Agricultural sector (solar pumps and solar power generation)
(B) Heavy industrial manufacturing and commercial processing facilities
(C) Urban electric mass transit and municipal public transportation
(D) Commercial aviation and airport infrastructure development sectors

57. Which earlier rural electrification scheme was subsumed into the Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY)?
(A) Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana national development scheme
(B) Indira Awaas Yojana rural housing infrastructure scheme
(C) Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY)
(D) Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana employment initiative

58. Match List I with List II regarding India's climate commitments:
List I: Climate Commitment

P. Achieving Net-Zero Carbon Emissions
Q. Non-fossil energy capacity target of 500 GW
R. Reducing carbon intensity of the economy by 45%
S. Achieving 50% cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources

List II: Target Year
1. By 2030
2. By 2070

Select the correct code:
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-1, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-1, S-2
(C) P-2, Q-2, R-1, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-1, R-2, S-2

59. At the COP26 summit, India committed to meeting what percentage of its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030?
(A) 30%
(B) 40%
(C) 50%
(D) 75%

60. Which of the following is NOT one of the 'Panchamrit' goals presented by India at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26)?
(A) Reaching non-fossil energy capacity of 500 GW by 2030.
(B) Achieving complete eradication of coal thermal plants by 2040.
(C) Reducing total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now onwards till 2030.
(D) Achieving the target of Net Zero by 2070.

61. Identify the most accurate statement regarding India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement.
(A) India has formally pledged under international treaties to halt industrial economic growth to curb overall emissions.
(B) The NDCs legally mandate state government bodies to directly fund international climate adaptation initiatives.
(C) India achieved its initial target of 40% non-fossil fuel installed capacity well ahead of the 2030 deadline.
(D) India's official targets focus exclusively on afforestation programs while omitting the primary energy sector.

62. Consider the following statements regarding Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses in India:
I. Technical losses occur due to the flow of power in transmission and distribution networks.
II. Commercial losses are primarily caused by theft, pilferage, and inaccurate metering.
III. India boasts the lowest AT&C losses globally, near 1%.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

63. In the context of India's power distribution sector, what does AT&C stand for?
(A) Aggregate Technical and Commercial
(B) Average Tariff and Consumption Rates
(C) Annual Transmission and Cost Analysis
(D) Assessed Thermal and Coal Capacity

64. The UDAY (Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana) scheme was primarily launched by the Government of India for which specific purpose?
(A) To provide free rooftop solar lamps and lighting systems to rural Below Poverty Line (BPL) families nationwide.
(B) For the financial turnaround and operational revival of power distribution companies (DISCOMs).
(C) To directly finance the national construction and grid integration of new commercial nuclear reactors.
(D) To heavily subsidize diesel fuel purchases used exclusively for running agricultural irrigation water pumps.

65. Approximately what percentage of its crude oil requirement does India import, highlighting a significant challenge to its energy security?
(A) 20-25%
(B) 40-45%
(C) 60-65%
(D) 80-85%

66. To mitigate supply disruptions and enhance energy security, India has constructed Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPRs). Which of the following locations hosts an underground SPR facility?
(A) Mangaluru, Karnataka
(B) Surat district, Gujarat

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(C) Haldia, West Bengal
(D) Chennai city, Tamil Nadu

67. Which of the following represents the most comprehensive long-term strategy for India to reduce its massive import dependency in the energy sector?
(A) Signing exclusive long-term crude trade agreements with a single primary Middle Eastern oil-producing nation.
(B) Implementing an immediate legal ban on the import and sale of all internal combustion engine vehicles nationwide.
(C) Expanding renewables, adopting electric mobility, and advancing domestic biofuel blending.
(D) Converting all utility power generation plants to run exclusively on imported diesel generators.

68. Consider the following statements regarding Natural Gas in India:
I. It is considered the cleanest burning fossil fuel.
II. Its primary constituent is propane.
III. The Krishna-Godavari (KG) Basin holds major natural gas reserves.
IV. City Gas Distribution (CGD) networks are expanding to provide Piped Natural Gas (PNG) to households.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, III and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

69. Among onshore regions, which Indian state has historically been a leading producer of onshore petroleum and natural gas, hosting the Digboi and Naharkatia fields?
(A) Maharashtra
(B) Punjab
(C) Assam
(D) Kerala

70. In India, the Krishna-Godavari (KG) Basin, highly noted for recent deep-water natural gas discoveries, is located off the coast of:
(A) Gujarat state
(B) Andhra Pradesh
(C) Maharashtra state
(D) Odisha state

71. Identify the correct descending sequence of sectors in India based on their total natural gas consumption.
(A) Fertilizer, Power, City Gas Distribution
(B) City Gas Distribution, Power, Fertilizer
(C) Power, Fertilizer, City Gas Distribution
(D) City Gas Distribution, Fertilizer, Power

72. In the emerging hydrogen economy, what specifically defines "Green Hydrogen"?
(A) Hydrogen produced via water electrolysis powered by renewable electricity.
(B) Hydrogen produced from natural gas using conventional steam methane reforming processes.
(C) Hydrogen extracted directly and completely from ambient atmospheric air currents.
(D) Hydrogen produced from industrial coal gasification paired with carbon capture systems.

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73. The National Green Hydrogen Mission sets a target to develop a green hydrogen production capacity of at least how much per annum by 2030?
(A) 1 MMT (Million Metric Tonne)
(B) 5 MMT
(C) 15 MMT
(D) 50 MMT

74. Which of the following correctly pairs the "color" of hydrogen with its method of production?
(A) Pink Hydrogen - Produced using electricity generated by nuclear power.
(B) Blue Hydrogen - Produced from coal without carbon capture.
(C) Grey Hydrogen - Produced from natural gas with carbon capture and storage.
(D) Green Hydrogen - Produced from biomass combustion.

75. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Green hydrogen is considered a crucial energy vector for decarbonizing hard-to-abate sectors like steel and shipping.
Reason (R): The combustion or use of green hydrogen in a fuel cell produces only water vapor, with zero carbon dioxide emissions.
Select the correct option from the following:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

76. According to recent statistics, which state consistently ranks first in total installed renewable energy capacity in India?
(A) Gujarat
(B) Rajasthan
(C) Tamil Nadu
(D) Maharashtra

77. Which Indian state recently overtook Tamil Nadu to become the state with the highest installed wind power capacity?
(A) Rajasthan
(B) Maharashtra
(C) Gujarat
(D) Karnataka

78. Which state leads India in the generation of bio-power, particularly utilizing bagasse cogeneration from its extensive sugar industry?
(A) Uttar Pradesh
(B) Kerala state
(C) Punjab state
(D) Maharashtra

79. Identify the correct statement reflecting Rajasthan's comparative energy profile.
(A) Solar power constitutes the largest single component of Rajasthan's total installed renewable capacity.
(B) Rajasthan's overall renewable energy portfolio is heavily dominated by small-scale hydroelectric projects.
(C) Rajasthan maintains zero operational reliance on conventional coal-fired thermal power plants for grid electricity.
(D) Wind power capacity in Rajasthan is significantly lower than its grid-connected biomass generation capacity.

80. In an academic and policy context, which of the following is the most appropriate definition of 'Energy Security' for a nation like India?
(A) The policy ability to consistently export surplus grid electricity to neighboring partner countries.
(B) The uninterrupted availability of primary energy sources at an affordable market price.
(C) Relying 100% exclusively on indigenously mined coal reserves for meeting all domestic energy needs.
(D) Achieving and maintaining absolute zero technical and commercial transmission losses in the national grid.

81. Consider the following measures aimed at enhancing energy security in India:
I. Diversification of energy import sources to prevent over-reliance on a single geopolitical region.
II. Encouraging domestic exploration under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP).
III. Decreasing the capacity of the Strategic Petroleum Reserves to cut government expenditure.
Which of the above measures is/are logically correct for enhancing energy security?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

82. In terms of primary energy consumption, where does India currently stand globally?
(A) Largest consumer
(B) Second largest consumer
(C) Third largest consumer
(D) Fifth largest consumer

83. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), the nodal ministry for all matters relating to new and renewable energy in India, was re-christened to its current name in which year?
(A) 1992
(B) 2006
(C) 2014
(D) 2020

84. Match List I with List II regarding organizations in the energy sector:
List I: Agency / Organization
P. BEE
Q. SECI
R. IREDA
S. CEA
List II: Core Function / Domain
1. Technical and planning advisor to the Ministry of Power
2. Financial institution providing loans for renewable projects
3. Nodal agency for implementing solar and wind energy projects
4. Statutory body regulating energy efficiency standards
Select the correct code:

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(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4

85. Which Central Public Sector Undertaking under the MNRE is primarily responsible for conducting reverse auctions and implementing the National Solar Mission?
(A) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL)
(B) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)
(C) Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)
(D) Rural Electrification Corporation (REC)

86. Consider the following functions attributed to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA):
I. Formulating the National Electricity Plan.
II. Specifying technical standards for the construction of electrical plants.
III. Fixing retail electricity tariffs for individual rural households.
IV. Collecting and recording data concerning the generation and transmission of power.
Which of the above statements correctly identify the functions of the CEA?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, II and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, III and IV only

87. What is the fundamental feature that distinguishes a "Smart Grid" from a traditional electrical grid?
(A) A smart grid functions exclusively on high-voltage direct current (DC) transmission networks rather than alternating current.
(B) It relies entirely on offshore wind farms and marine renewable systems to meet national grid power generation demand.
(C) It eliminates the requirement for physical transmission lines by transmitting electrical power wirelessly over long distances.
(D) It incorporates two-way digital communication between the utility and customers to monitor and manage energy usage.

88. Pumped Hydro Storage (PHS) is a critical component of modern energy storage. How does it generally operate?
(A) It pumps water to a higher reservoir during off-peak hours and releases it through turbines during peak demand.
(B) It chemically stores utility-scale electrical energy directly within massive subterranean liquid lithium reservoirs.
(C) It compresses ambient air into natural sealed underground geological caverns during extended low grid demand periods.
(D) It utilizes surplus off-peak electricity to heat massive solid blocks of graphite for delayed high-temperature thermal recovery.

89. Arrange the following components of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) in a Smart Grid in the typical logical sequence of data flow from the consumer to the utility:
1. Data Management System (MDMS)
2. Smart Meter at consumer premises
3. Data Concentrator Unit (DCU)
4. Head End System (HES)
Which of the following is the correct order?
(A) 2, 3, 4, 1
(B) 2, 4, 3, 1
(C) 1, 4, 3, 2
(D) 3, 2, 1, 4

90. What is a key motivation behind India's focus on developing large-scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)?
(A) To manage the variable nature of solar and wind power generation, ensuring overall grid stability.
(B) To systematically phase out and eventually replace all large-scale operating hydroelectric dams throughout the nation.
(C) To artificially increase the continuous base load generation requirements of conventional fossil-fuel thermal power plants.
(D) To bypass and completely eliminate the strategic need for establishing multilateral international solar energy alliances.

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ANSWERS

1. (B) Coal
Coal remains India's premier commercial and conventional energy resource, forming the backbone of the nation's baseline electricity supply. Historically utilized since the industrial era, coal-based thermal generation dominates primary power infrastructure. Unlike non-commercial sources like fuelwood or non-conventional sources like solar and biogas, coal is systematically extracted, traded, and distributed through established industrial markets nationwide.

2. (A) They include wind, tidal, and geothermal energy.
Conventional energy sources primarily encompass fossil fuels like coal, petroleum, and natural gas, along with large-scale hydroelectricity. Wind, tidal, and geothermal energy are categorized as non-conventional or renewable resources. Conventional sources are characteristically exhaustible, release substantial greenhouse gas emissions during combustion, and have historically served as the fundamental base load for electrical grids throughout industrial development across India.

3. (C) Animal Dung
Animal dung represents a traditional, non-commercial conventional energy source widely utilized across rural India. Unlike commercial conventional fuels like petroleum, natural gas, and lignite, which are processed and traded through structured economic markets, animal dung is gathered directly from domestic livestock without market transactions. It is primarily burned as dried cakes to provide domestic cooking and heating energy.

4. (D) They are continuously replenished by natural processes and are generally inexhaustible.
Non-conventional energy resources are distinguished by their naturally regenerative and essentially inexhaustible nature. Derived from continuous natural flows such as solar radiation, wind, tides, geothermal heat, and organic biomass, these technologies replenish faster than they are consumed. They offer sustainable alternatives to finite fossil fuels, generating minimal long-term environmental degradation and minimal direct greenhouse emissions during ongoing operational power generation.

5. (C) Natural gas combined cycle plants
Natural gas combined cycle power generation relies on burning fossil natural gas, classifying it firmly as a conventional commercial thermal energy source. Conversely, photovoltaic solar systems, ocean thermal energy conversion, and advanced fast breeder nuclear reactors fall under non-conventional or non-traditional energy categories designed to diversify power generation and mitigate reliance on depletable, carbon-intensive hydrocarbon energy infrastructures.

6. (B) To ensure long-term energy security, reduce fuel import dependency, and meet climate goals.
India's strategic policy movement towards non-conventional energy is driven by the imperative to enhance energy independence, lower volatile fossil fuel imports, and fulfill international climate obligations. Transitioning to renewable power mitigates severe environmental pollution, hedge against global petroleum supply shocks, and fosters sustainable economic expansion while building resilient clean energy infrastructure capable of meeting expanding national electricity requirements.

7. (D) Wind - Non-conventional, Commercial
Wind power is classified as a non-conventional renewable energy source that is harvested commercially for utility grid power generation. Petroleum is a conventional commercial fuel, solar is non-conventional commercial energy, and peat coal is a conventional fossil fuel. Wind generation utilizes modern turbine technology to convert kinetic atmospheric movement into marketable electrical energy across commercial utility scale energy markets.

8. (A) Jharkhand
Jharkhand possesses the largest geological reserves of coal in India, holding major coalfields such as Jharia, Bokaro, and Dhanbad. However, operational dynamics, environmental clearance bottlenecks, and logistical factors lead states like Odisha and Chhattisgarh to frequently surpass

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Jharkhand in annual raw coal extraction figures, despite Jharkhand retaining the top position in cumulative subterranean national reserves.

9. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false. Thermal power constitutes the predominant share of India's installed power capacity, driven largely by abundant coal reserves. However, Indian coal is overwhelmingly non-coking Gondwana coal characterized by high ash content and low calorific value, not high-grade anthracite. Anthracite reserves in India are extremely limited, rendering the associated reasoning historically and geologically inaccurate regarding domestic quality.

10. (C) 4000 MW
Ultra Mega Power Projects are large-scale thermal power developments initiated by the Ministry of Power in India to expand generation capacity efficiently. To qualify under this scheme, a project must feature a minimum installed capacity of 4,000 MW. These mega projects utilize super-critical technology to achieve higher thermal efficiency and reduce specific carbon dioxide emissions per kilowatt-hour produced.

11. (D) Bituminous coal
Suratgarh Super Thermal Power Station, situated in the Sri Ganganagar district of Rajasthan, serves as a major base-load thermal generation facility operated by Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited. The plant operates primarily on pulverized bituminous coal supplied via dedicated railway networks from coal mines in Eastern India, producing a significant portion of Rajasthan's thermal grid electricity.

12. (D) I, II and III
The Brahmaputra basin holds India's largest unexploited hydroelectric potential due to steep elevation drops and torrential runoff. Hydroelectric power provides rapid ramp-up and ramp-down capability, making it ideal for meeting peak electrical demand. Furthermore, small hydro projects up to 25 MW fall under the purview of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy as classified renewable sources.

13. (C) Tehri Dam
Located on the Bhagirathi River in Uttarakhand, Tehri Dam is the highest dam in India and among the tallest worldwide. The complex incorporates a major hydroelectric project along with a pumped-storage system, enabling it to generate peak load power efficiently and recirculate water between its upper reservoir and lower surge pond to maintain continuous grid balance.

14. (D) A facility that generates electricity using the natural flow of a river with little to no water storage.
Run-of-the-river hydroelectric projects utilize the immediate hydraulic flow and kinetic momentum of a river to drive turbines without relying on vast impoundment reservoirs. Because water storage is minimal or non-existent, these plants operate based on seasonal river discharge, causing significantly less land submergence and ecological displacement compared to conventional large storage-reservoir dam installations.

15. (A) Nathpa Jhakri
Nathpa Jhakri Hydroelectric Power Station is located on the Sutlej River in Himachal Pradesh and is operated by SJVN Limited. Mahi Bajaj Sagar, Rana Pratap Sagar, and Jawahar Sagar projects are located within or shared directly by Rajasthan, with the latter two forming vital components of the Chambal Valley multi-purpose river development project network.

16. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Rawatbhata Nuclear Power Plant is situated in Rajasthan along the Rana Pratap Sagar reservoir. Kakrapar Atomic Power Station operates in Gujarat. Kaiga Generating Station is located in Karnataka near the Kali River. Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant, the highest capacity nuclear facility in India, is located in the coastal state of Tamil Nadu.

17. (B) Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR)
The Rajasthan Atomic Power Station located at Rawatbhata primarily utilizes Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor technology. PHWRs use natural uranium dioxide as fuel and heavy water, or deuterium oxide, as both coolant and neutron moderator. This reactor design formed the core baseline technology for the initial stage of India's commercial nuclear power expansion program.

18. (A) Kudankulam Power Station
Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu, is India's largest operating nuclear station by capacity. Developed in technical collaboration with Russia, the facility houses VVER-1000 pressurized water reactors. Upon

full realization of its planned expansion units, Kudankulam will maintain an unprecedented capacity, leading domestic nuclear power supply to the southern electrical grid.

19. (C) Uranium for domestic nuclear reactors is mined entirely within India, eliminating any reliance on imports.
Domestic uranium reserves in India, mined mainly at Jaduguda and Tummalapalle, are insufficient to support all nuclear reactors. Consequently, India relies on imports from international partners like Kazakhstan, Canada, and Russia under IAEA safeguards. India remains outside the NPT, operates BARC for advanced research, and utilizes nuclear generation as a primary commercial electricity component.

20. (D) Homi J. Bhabha
Dr. Homi Jehangir Bhabha formulated India's visionary three-stage nuclear power program in the 1950s. Designed to secure energy independence, the strategy optimizes India's modest uranium reserves while eventually exploiting vast domestic thorium resources. Bhabha served as the founding director of the Atomic Energy Establishment, Trombay, which was subsequently renamed in his honor.

21. (A) I, II and III only
India's three-stage nuclear program progresses from natural uranium-fueled PHWRs to plutonium-fueled Fast Breeder Reactors, culminating in thorium-based Advanced Heavy Water Reactors. Stage 3 is not yet fully commercialized, as technology development and breeder reactor deployment remain active prerequisites before broad thorium-based power generation can supply the national commercial electrical grid.

22. (B) The monazite sands along the Kerala coastline
India holds vast thorium resources primarily locked within monazite beach sands distributed along coastal stretches, with heavy concentrations found in Kerala, Odisha, and Tamil Nadu. Monazite is a phosphate mineral rich in rare earth elements and thorium. Harnessing these extensive monazite deposits forms the foundational core of the third stage of India's nuclear energy roadmap.

23. (B) 2010
The Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission was officially inaugurated in January 2010. Operating as a major initiative under the National Action Plan on Climate Change, JNNSM aimed to establish India as a global solar power leader by promoting utility-scale solar generation, off-grid applications, and domestic manufacturing, laying the policy base for rapid expansion.

24. (C) 100 GW
The Government of India substantially scaled up the original National Solar Mission capacity targets in 2015, revising the solar generation goal from 20 GW to 100 GW by 2022. This ambitious target was divided into 60 GW of grid-connected utility-scale solar parks and 40 GW of decentralized solar rooftop installations across residential and industrial buildings.

25. (B) Rajasthan, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu
Rajasthan leads India in total operational solar capacity due to high solar insolation and expansive desert land, followed closely by Gujarat, which has expanded utility-scale parks rapidly. Karnataka ranks third with substantial installations like Pavagada, followed by Tamil Nadu. This sequence reflects the descending order of installed solar potential across these top power-producing states.

26. (A) Jodhpur
Bhadla Solar Park, one of the world's largest concentrated photovoltaic installations with an operational capacity exceeding 2,240 MW, is located in the Jodhpur district of Rajasthan. Spanning thousands of acres of arid wasteland, the site benefits from exceptional horizontal solar irradiance, minimal cloud cover, and low precipitation levels ideal for optimal solar power output.

27. (D) Karnataka
Pavagada Solar Park, officially named Shakti Sthala, is situated in the Tumakuru district of Karnataka. Spanning over 13,000 acres across low-rainfall drought-prone regions, the facility features an operational capacity exceeding 2,050 MW. Developed via a unique land-leasing model with local farmers, it represents one of India's largest grid-connected solar power projects.

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28. (B) Kamuthi Solar Power Project - Rajasthan
Kamuthi Solar Power Project is located in the Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu, not in Rajasthan. Commissioned by Adani Green Energy, it was one of the world's largest single-location solar facilities upon completion. Kurnool Solar Park operates in Andhra Pradesh, Rewa Solar Park in Madhya Pradesh, and Charanka Solar Park in Gujarat.

29. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Rajasthan commands the highest cumulative installed solar power capacity in India. This dominance directly stems from its geographical advantages, including high global horizontal irradiance, extensive clear sunny days annually, and vast expanses of low-cost, flat wasteland in Western Thar regions suitable for establishing ultra-mega utility-scale photovoltaic solar park developments.

30. (D) Tamil Nadu
The Muppandal Wind Farm is the largest operational onshore wind power facility in India, located in the Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu. The site features thousands of wind turbines benefiting from high-velocity wind currents channeled through mountain passes in the Western Ghats during monsoon periods, generating significant clean power for the regional grid.

31. (B) 4 - 5 m/s
Modern commercial wind turbines typically require a minimum cut-in wind speed of approximately 4 to 5 meters per second (m/s) to overcome internal mechanical friction and initiate rotation to produce electricity. Below this threshold, kinetic wind power is insufficient to turn the turbine blades efficiently enough to generate commercially viable grid electricity.

32. (B) Gujarat and Tamil Nadu consistently rank as the top two states in total installed wind power capacity.
Gujarat and Tamil Nadu dominate India's wind energy sector, consistently holding the top positions in cumulative installed capacity due to favourable coastal wind corridors. Wind energy potential is concentrated heavily across western and southern states rather than the Himalayas, exhibits seasonal monsoon fluctuations, and remains predominantly onshore, with offshore installations currently under planning stages.

33. (B) Fourth
According to global renewable energy assessments, India ranks fourth internationally in total installed wind power capacity, following China, the United States, and Germany. Sustained policy support, supportive tariff mechanisms, and major investments across wind-rich states have driven extensive deployment, positioning India as a leading nation in onshore wind energy infrastructure.

34. (A) Producer Gas (Syngas)
Biomass gasification involves thermal conversion of solid biomass fuels under controlled high temperatures with limited oxygen supply. This thermochemical process converts agricultural residues or wood waste into producer gas, also called synthesis gas or syngas. Composed mainly of carbon monoxide, hydrogen, and methane, this gas can fuel internal combustion engines or drive power generation turbines.

35. (B) I and II only
Sugarcane bagasse is widely utilized in industrial cogeneration plants to produce process steam and electricity. Unlike intermittent solar or wind resources, biomass facilities offer dispatchable, continuous baseline power. However, burning agricultural residues directly in open fields causes severe atmospheric pollution and resource waste, making field burning an inefficient and environmentally damaging practices.

36. (D) Carbon
Carbon forms the primary chemical foundation of all organic biomass energy resources. Through photosynthesis, plants fix atmospheric carbon dioxide into chemical compounds such as cellulose, hemicellulose, and lignin. When biomass undergoes combustion, gasification, or anaerobic decay, stored carbon is released, liberating stored chemical solar energy stored within plant cellular structures.

37. (C) Methane
Biogas produced via the anaerobic digestion of organic materials like cattle dung, food waste, and agricultural biomass consists predominantly of methane gas, typically ranging between 55% to 70% by volume. Methane serves as the primary combustible fuel component responsible for the

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calorific energy value of biogas during domestic heating and power generation.

38. (B) The leftover digestate slurry serves as a valuable nitrogen-rich organic fertilizer for crop soil.
Beyond yielding clean energy for rural cooking and lighting, anaerobic biogas units produce a nutrient-rich bio-slurry or digestate as a byproduct. Containing concentrated nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and organic matter, this digested slurry acts as a high-quality eco-friendly bio-fertilizer, enhancing soil structure and fertility while reducing dependency on chemical fertilizers.

39. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Anaerobic digestion involves bacterial decomposition of organic waste without oxygen to form biogas. Pyrolysis thermally degrades biomass without oxygen to yield bio-oil and biochar. Fermentation uses microorganisms to convert sugars into bioethanol fuel. Direct combustion burns raw biomass in air to release heat energy for industrial or domestic applications.

40. (A) Gulf of Khambhat
The Gulf of Khambhat in Gujarat possesses the highest estimated tidal energy potential in India, characterized by extreme tidal ranges exceeding 8 to 11 meters. This hyper-tidal marine setting provides immense kinetic hydraulic power, rendering it the primary focal point for potential utility-scale ocean tidal power development along the Indian coastline.

41. (C) Spring tides during full and new moons
Tidal power generation depends directly on the amplitude of tidal ranges. Spring tides occur during full moon and new moon phases when the gravitational pulls of the Sun and Moon align, producing the highest high tides and lowest low tides. This maximized water level difference produces maximum potential and kinetic fluid energy for driving turbines.

42. (A) 3, 1, 2
The Gulf of Khambhat leads India in tidal energy potential, estimated at around 7,000 MW due to high tidal amplitudes. The Gulf of Kutch follows with approximately 1,200 MW of potential capacity. The Sunderbans Delta in West Bengal ranks third, offering modest tidal potential suitable primarily for small-scale decentralized tidal power installations.

43. (D) Ladakh
Puga Valley is located in the high-altitude region of Ladakh and is widely recognized as India's most promising geothermal energy field. Situated near geothermal fault lines, the site features hot springs, mud pools, and thermal anomaly zones capable of generating continuous binary geothermal electricity and supplying space-heating applications in cold Himalayan conditions.

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44. (B) It is highly dependent on daily weather variations and ambient solar irradiance.
Geothermal energy relies on continuous internal heat derived from the Earth's core, making generation entirely independent of surface weather variations, solar radiation, or wind speeds. Consequently, geothermal plants operate at high capacity factors to deliver stable, predictable base-load power. India's total potential geothermal generation capacity across various provinces is estimated at roughly 10,000 MW.

45. (C) Himachal Pradesh
Manikaran is located in the Parvati Valley of Kullu district, Himachal Pradesh. Renowned for its natural hot springs and high geothermal gradient, the site represents a major geothermal field in northwestern India. Studies demonstrate significant potential for binary cycle geothermal power installations and direct thermal applications like cold storage facilities.

46. (A) I, II and III only
Tattapani in Chhattisgarh, Cambay Graben in Gujarat, and Chumathang in Ladakh represent established high-potential geothermal fields in India. The Thar Desert in Rajasthan does not host active geysers or major thermal fields. Geothermal provinces in India are primarily concentrated along tectonic suture zones, volcanic regions, and active Himalayan rift valleys.

47. (A) Thermal (Coal, Lignite, Gas, Diesel)
Thermal power generation, incorporating coal, lignite, natural gas, and diesel facilities, continues to maintain the largest single share of India's total installed power capacity. Within thermal power, coal-fired power stations form the dominant fraction, providing crucial baseline

supply needed to meet national commercial grid demands across industrial and domestic sectors.

48. (B) Industrial
The industrial sector accounts for the highest percentage share of total commercial electricity consumption in India. Heavy manufacturing industries, textile plants, chemical refineries, and metallurgical processing facilities require continuous high-voltage power. Domestic and agricultural sectors represent significant secondary shares, but industrial operations lead nationwide electricity utilization and demand patterns overall.

49. (B) A gradual drop in fossil fuel share alongside rapid expansion in solar and wind capacity.
Over the last decade, India's energy transition is marked by a gradual decline in the percentage share of fossil fuels within total installed capacity alongside rapid growth in renewable energy sources like solar and wind power. While thermal generation continues providing baseline capacity, clean energy additions dominate new grid installations.

50. (A) Coal Thermal and Pumped Hydro Storage
Coal thermal power plants provide stable, continuous output ideal for supplying constant base-load grid demand. Conversely, pumped hydro storage facilities feature rapid start-stop operational flexibilities, enabling them to generate electricity instantly during peak demand periods and consume excess grid power during off-peak hours, maintaining overall electrical grid balance and reliability.

51. (B) 2001
The Energy Conservation Act was enacted by the Parliament of India in 2001 to provide a formal legal and regulatory framework for promoting energy efficiency across the economy. The Act mandated energy consumption standards, empowered state agencies, and established the statutory Bureau of Energy Efficiency to implement institutional energy conservation programs.

52. (D) Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)
The Bureau of Energy Efficiency, a statutory body under the Ministry of Power, administers the Standards and Labeling Program, commonly known as Star Labeling. This scheme rates electrical appliances on a 1-to-5 star scale based on energy consumption efficiency, aiding consumers in making energy-conscious purchasing decisions.

53. (C) To boost industrial energy efficiency via a market-based trading mechanism for energy saving certificates.
The Perform, Achieve and Trade scheme is a flaghip regulatory initiative under the National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency. PAT sets mandatory specific energy consumption targets for energy-intensive industrial sectors. Facilities exceeding their reduction targets receive tradeable Energy Saving Certificates, while underperforming facilities must purchase certificates, driving cost-effective industrial decarbonization.

54. (B) Saubhagya Scheme
The Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana, popularly known as Saubhagya, was launched in 2017 to achieve universal household electrification across rural and urban India. The initiative focused on providing last-mile electricity connectivity to all remaining un-electrified households by financing service connections and decentralized solar power packages.

55. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana prioritizes the physical separation of rural agricultural feeders from domestic non-agricultural feeders. Unbundling power lines enables distribution utilities to manage load scheduling effectively, supplying dedicated high-voltage power for agricultural irrigation pumps while simultaneously delivering continuous uninterrupted electricity supply to rural homes and commercial establishments.

56. (A) Agricultural sector (solar pumps and solar power generation)
The PM-KUSUM scheme targets the agricultural sector to enhance energy security for farmers and reduce diesel reliance. It promotes solarizing agricultural pumps, establishing decentralized grid-connected solar power plants on barren farmland, and solarizing existing grid-tied agricultural pumps, allowing farmers to sell surplus power back to distribution utilities.

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57. (C) Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY)
The Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana subsumed the pre-existing Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana into its framework. DDUGJY expanded the operational scope beyond basic village electrification to focus on feeder separation, strengthening distribution sub-transmission infrastructure, micro-grid implementation, and comprehensive metering to improve rural power reliability across the nation.

58. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-1, S-1
At the COP26 climate summit, India formally pledged to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2070. Under its updated Panchamrit targets set for 2030, India aims to establish 500 GW of non-fossil energy capacity, lower the carbon intensity of its economy by 45%, and source 50% of cumulative electric power capacity from non-fossil fuel resources.

59. (C) 50%
At the COP26 summit in Glasgow, India pledged to meet 50% of its cumulative electric power installed capacity requirements from non-fossil fuel energy sources by 2030. This climate commitment reflects India's accelerated push towards expanding solar, wind, hydro, and nuclear power capacity to decouple national economic growth from carbon emissions.

60. (B) Achieving complete eradication of coal thermal plants by 2040.
India's 'Panchamrit' strategy announced at COP26 includes reaching 500 GW non-fossil capacity by 2030, fulfilling 50% energy requirements from renewables by 2030, cutting projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes by 2030, reducing carbon intensity by 45%, and Net-Zero by 2070. It does not mandate complete coal plant shutdown by 2040.

61. (C) India achieved its initial target of 40% non-fossil fuel installed capacity well ahead of the 2030 deadline.
Under its initial Nationally Determined Contributions submitted under the Paris Agreement, India pledged to achieve 40% non-fossil fuel cumulative electric capacity by 2030. India surpassed this benchmark in November 2021, almost nine years ahead of schedule, prompting a subsequent revision of its climate targets to higher ambitions.

62. (A) I and II only
Aggregate Technical and Commercial losses combine technical dissipation in transmission and distribution infrastructure with commercial losses stemming from electricity theft, unmetered usage, billing inaccuracies, and non-collection of revenues. India's AT&C losses historically range between 15% to 20%, remaining significantly higher than international benchmarks rather than low 1% levels.

63. (A) Aggregate Technical and Commercial
In power sector governance, AT&C stands for Aggregate Technical and Commercial losses. It provides a comprehensive operational metric measuring total power loss across the distribution chain, combining physical technical losses during transmission with commercial losses caused by non-metering, defective meters, electricity theft, billing errors, and customer non-payment issues.

64. (B) For the financial turnaround and operational revival of power distribution companies (DISCOMs).
Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana was introduced in 2015 to rescue financially distressed state-owned power distribution utility companies. UDAY enabled state governments to take over a major portion of DISCOM debt, lower interest burdens, enforce operational efficiency improvements, and reduce AT&C losses to restore commercial viability across the power distribution sector.

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65. (D) 80-85%
India relies heavily on foreign energy imports, importing roughly 80% to 85% of its overall crude oil consumption requirements to satisfy domestic transport and industrial needs. This extreme import reliance exposes the national economy to global price volatility, supply disruptions, and significant foreign exchange outflows, emphasizing the strategic urgency for alternative domestic energy solutions.

66. (A) Mangaluru, Karnataka
To safeguard energy security against geopolitical supply shocks, Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited constructed underground rock-cavern crude storage facilities under Phase I. Mangaluru in Karnataka, along with Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh and Padur in Karnataka, serves as an operational underground

Strategic Petroleum Reserve location hosting emergency crude oil reserves.

67. (C) Expanding renewables, adopting electric mobility, and advancing domestic biofuel blending.
Reducing energy import reliance requires a multi-pronged long-term strategy centered on expanding renewable generation, accelerating electric vehicle adoption, and scaling up domestic biofuel blending targets like ethanol. Diversifying the energy transition framework enhances national self-reliance, dampens foreign exchange vulnerability, and drastically curtails domestic greenhouse gas emissions across major consumer sectors.

68. (B) I, III and IV only
Natural gas is considered the cleanest burning fossil fuel due to lower carbon emissions upon combustion. Its principal constituent component is methane, not propane. The Krishna-Godavari Basin contains major offshore gas reserves, while City Gas Distribution networks continue expanding across India to supply piped natural gas for households and commercial consumers.

69. (C) Assam
Assam represents the historic birthplace of India's petroleum industry, featuring Digboi, where Asia's first commercial oil well was drilled in 1889. Assam contains prominent onshore petroleum and natural gas fields, including Digboi, Naharkatia, and Moran-Hugrijan, continuing to contribute significantly to domestic onshore crude oil and natural gas supply.

70. (B) Andhra Pradesh
The Krishna-Godavari Basin is an extensive geological deltaic basin situated off the eastern coast of Andhra Pradesh. The region is nationally prominent for major deep-water natural gas discoveries, particularly within block KG-D6, playing a vital role in India's domestic natural gas production and supply infrastructure to commercial distribution pipelines.

71. (A) Fertilizer, Power, City Gas Distribution
In India, natural gas allocation prioritizes essential industrial feedstock. The fertilizer manufacturing industry constitutes the largest single consumer sector, utilizing natural gas primarily to manufacture urea. Thermal power generation plants represent the second-largest sector, followed by the expanding City Gas Distribution sector, which supplies compressed and piped gas.

72. (A) Hydrogen produced via water electrolysis powered by renewable electricity.
Green Hydrogen is defined as hydrogen gas generated through the electrolysis of water driven entirely by electricity generated from renewable sources, such as solar or wind power. Because the process releases no greenhouse gas emissions or carbon byproducts during production, green hydrogen serves as a zero-emission energy carrier for decarbonization.

73. (B) 5 MMT
The National Green Hydrogen Mission, launched by the Government of India, targets establishing a green hydrogen production capacity of at least 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) per annum by 2030. Supported by associated renewable energy capacity additions, the mission aims to reduce reliance on imported fossil fuels and lower economy-wide emissions.

74. (A) Pink Hydrogen - Produced using electricity generated by nuclear power.
Pink Hydrogen refers specifically to hydrogen generated via water electrolysis powered by electricity sourced from nuclear reactors. Blue hydrogen is produced from natural gas integrated with carbon capture technologies, Grey hydrogen stems from natural gas without carbon capture, and Green hydrogen relies entirely on renewable energy sources like wind or solar.

75. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Green hydrogen is a key energy carrier for decarbonizing hard-to-abate sectors like steelmaking, heavy transport, and chemical manufacturing where direct electrification is technically challenging. When combusted or processed through fuel cells, green hydrogen combines with oxygen to produce pure water vapor as the sole byproduct, emitting zero carbon dioxide.

76. (B) Rajasthan
Rajasthan consistently holds the top rank among Indian states in total installed renewable energy capacity. Driven by massive solar park expansion in the Thar region, strong wind installations, and vast availability of flat land, Rajasthan leads

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national renewable capacity addition, outpacing other major clean energy producing states like Gujarat and Tamil Nadu.

77. (C) Gujarat
Gujarat recently surpassed Tamil Nadu to become the leading state in total installed wind power capacity in India. Rapid capacity additions along the coastal regions of Kutch and Saurashtra, supported by favourable wind policies, efficient land allocation, and grid infrastructure, pushed Gujarat into the top position for operational wind energy.

78. (D) Maharashtra
Maharashtra leads Indian states in total bio-power generation, primarily due to extensive bagasse-based power cogeneration across its widespread commercial sugar mill network. During sugarcane crushing seasons, sugar mills utilize residual bagasse to generate steam, powering internal processing operations while exporting substantial surplus bio-electricity directly to the state distribution grid.

79. (A) Solar power constitutes the largest single component of Rajasthan's total installed renewable capacity.
Solar power represents the largest single constituent within Rajasthan's clean energy portfolio, accounting for the vast majority of its renewable capacity. While wind power also contributes significantly, Rajasthan maintains substantial reliance on coal-fired thermal generation for grid baseline stability, whereas hydro and biomass form comparatively smaller segments of its power profile.

80. (B) The uninterrupted availability of primary energy sources at an affordable market price.
Energy security is broadly defined as the continuous, uninterrupted availability of primary energy sources in sufficient quantities at economically affordable price levels. For developing nations like India, maintaining energy security involves ensuring resilient supply chains, minimizing import disruptions, diversifying clean generation sources, and mitigating macroeconomic impacts caused by volatile global fuel market fluctuations.

81. (A) I and II only
Diversifying energy supply sources and accelerating domestic oil and gas exploration under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy enhance national energy security by reducing geopolitical risks and reliance on volatile imports. Reducing Strategic Petroleum Reserves capacity would impair emergency response capabilities during global supply disruptions, contradicting core energy security principles.

82. (C) Third largest consumer
India ranks as the third-largest consumer of primary energy globally, trailing only China and the United States. Rapid industrialization, urbanization, expanding transport networks, and economic growth drive this massive energy demand, highlighting the strategic necessity for domestic capacity expansion, energy efficiency measures, and accelerated transition toward sustainable non-fossil resources.

83. (B) 2006
Originally established as the Commission for Additional Sources of Energy in 1981 and later turned into the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources in 1992, the ministry was officially renamed the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy in October 2006 to reflect its evolving mandate in scaling clean energy.

84. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Bureau of Energy Efficiency regulates energy conservation standards. Solar Energy Corporation of India serves as the central implementing agency for utility solar and wind projects. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency finances clean energy ventures. Central Electricity Authority acts as the technical and planning advisory body to the Ministry of Power.

85. (C) Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)
Solar Energy Corporation of India is a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. SECI serves as the primary implementation arm for the National Solar Mission, executing competitive reverse auctions, issuing power purchase agreements, and facilitating utility-scale solar and wind park developments across the country.

86. (B) I, II and IV only
The Central Electricity Authority formulates the National Electricity Plan, establishes technical standards for power plants and grid operations, and collects national electricity generation data. CEA does not fix retail electricity tariffs for

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end consumers; retail tariff determination falls strictly under the regulatory jurisdiction of State and Central Electricity Regulatory Commissions.

87. (D) It incorporates two-way digital communication between the utility and customers to monitor and manage energy usage.
A Smart Grid integrates advanced digital two-way communication networks between electricity utilities and end-use consumers. Utilizing smart meters, sensors, and automated controls, smart grids facilitate real-time monitoring, dynamic demand response, rapid fault detection, and seamless integration of variable renewable energy resources, distinguishing them from traditional unidirectional power transmission systems.

88. (A) It pumps water to a higher reservoir during off-peak hours and releases it through turbines during peak demand.
Pumped Hydro Storage acts as a utility-scale mechanical battery. During off-peak hours with low demand or surplus generation, electricity pumps water from a lower reservoir to an elevated upper reservoir. During peak electricity demand, stored water is released back downward through hydroelectric turbines to generate dispatchable power instantaneously.

89. (A) 2, 3, 4, 1
In Advanced Metering Infrastructure, data originates at consumer smart meters. A local Data Concentrator Unit aggregates data from multiple smart meters via mesh networks or cellular signals, transmitting it to the utility's Head End System. Finally, the Meter Data Management System processes, analyzes, and stores this metering information.

90. (A) To manage the variable nature of solar and wind power generation, ensuring overall grid stability.
Battery Energy Storage Systems play a crucial role in managing the inherent intermittency of solar and wind generation. BESS facilities store excess renewable power during periods of peak generation and dispatch stored energy back into the electrical grid during demand surges, mitigating grid frequency fluctuations and supporting grid stability.

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CHAPTER 08

Major Industries and Industrial Regions of India

1. Which of the following groups of industries is exclusively classified as agro-based industries in India?
(A) Woolen textile, silk, cement, and leather
(B) Cotton textile, jute, sugar, and edible oils
(C) Rubber, tea, iron and steel, and dairy
(D) Paper, fertilizer, petrochemicals, and coffee

2. The classification of industries as basic or key industries is primarily determined by which of the following characteristics?
(A) The industry utilizes heavy and bulky raw materials exclusively.
(B) The industry is entirely owned and managed by the central government.
(C) The industry requires a low capital investment but generates high employment.
(D) The products of the industry serve as raw materials to manufacture other goods.

3. In the context of mineral-based industries, which of the following pairs of raw material and its corresponding industry is incorrectly matched?
(A) Naphtha - Iron and steel industry
(B) Bauxite - Aluminum industry
(C) Limestone - Cement industry
(D) Silica sand - Glass industry

4. Which of the following statements best describes a footloose industry?
(A) An industry that is highly dependent on weight-losing raw materials.
(B) An industry that employs a largely unorganized and migratory workforce.
(C) An industry that can be located in a wide variety of places without significant cost variations.
(D) An industry that exclusively targets export markets and operates in coastal areas.

5. The first successful mechanized cotton textile mill in India was established in which year and at which location?
(A) 1818 in Fort Gloster, Kolkata
(B) 1854 in Mumbai
(C) 1861 in Ahmedabad
(D) 1874 in Kanpur

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6. Which of the following factors is NOT considered a primary reason for the historical concentration of the cotton textile industry in the Mumbai-Ahmedabad region?
(A) Proximity to fertile black cotton soil growing regions.
(B) Humid maritime climate preventing yarn breakage in spinning.
(C) Excellent port facilities for importing industrial machinery.
(D) Extensive inland waterways network for cheap transportation.

7. Consider the following statements regarding the jute industry in India:
I. India is the largest producer of raw jute and jute goods in the world.
II. The industry is highly concentrated in the Hooghly basin of West Bengal.
III. The National Jute Board is headquartered in New Delhi.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

8. What was the most significant negative impact on the Indian jute industry immediately following the partition of India in 1947?
(A) All the major jute mills were relocated to East Pakistan.
(B) The global demand for jute completely collapsed due to the invention of synthetic fibers.
(C) The primary jute-producing areas went to East Pakistan while the mills remained in India.
(D) The British government imposed an embargo on Indian jute exports.

9. In the context of the cotton textile industry in Rajasthan, which district is widely recognized as the Manchester of Rajasthan due to its prominent textile sector?
(A) Jaipur
(B) Pali
(C) Jodhpur
(D) Bhilwara

10. The Bhilai Steel Plant, one of the major integrated steel plants in India, was established with the technical collaboration of which country?
(A) Soviet Union (USSR)
(B) United Kingdom
(C) West Germany
(D) United States of America

11. Match the following iron and steel plants in List I with their collaborating countries in List II.
List I: Iron and Steel Plant
P. Rourkela Steel Plant
Q. Durgapur Steel Plant
R. Bokaro Steel Plant
S. Visakhapatnam Steel Plant
List II: Collaborating Country
1. Soviet Union (USSR)
2. United Kingdom
3. Germany
4. Indigenous technology (Soviet assistance later)
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-1
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

12. Which of the following raw materials is considered the most critical weight-losing input, heavily influencing the location of integrated iron and steel plants in India?
(A) High-grade manganese ore
(B) Metallurgical coking coal
(C) Quality fluxing limestone
(D) Raw refractory dolomite

13. Which of the following correctly identifies a major difference between an integrated steel plant and a mini steel plant?
(A) Integrated plants handle raw materials to steel making in one complex, while mini plants use electric arc furnaces for scrap or sponge iron.
(B) Mini steel plants produce pig iron directly from iron ore in blast furnaces, whereas integrated plants exclusively process recycled scrap iron.
(C) Mini steel plants consistently require significantly higher initial capital investment and extensive infrastructure compared to integrated plants.
(D) Integrated steel plants are entirely owned and operated by the private sector, whereas mini steel plants function strictly as public sector undertakings.

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14. Tata Iron and Steel Company (TISCO) at Jamshedpur is situated at the confluence of which two rivers?
(A) The Damodar and Barakar rivers
(B) The Mahanadi and Brahmani rivers
(C) Subarnarekha and Kharkai rivers
(D) The Hooghly and Rupnarayan rivers

15. Chennai has earned the moniker Detroit of India primarily due to the concentration of which of the following industries?
(A) Information technology services
(B) Cotton textile manufacturing
(C) Petrochemical processing
(D) Automobile manufacturing

16. Consider the following statements regarding the petrochemical industry in India:
I. Petrochemicals are primarily derived from petroleum refining and natural gas processing.
II. Naphtha and ethylene are important feedstocks for the petrochemical industry.
III. The Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) established the first major petrochemical complex in Vadodara.
IV. The industry tends to be exclusively located in landlocked regions far from coastal ports.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II only
(B) III and IV only
(C) IV only
(D) I, III and IV

17. Which of the following represents the correct sequence of the establishment of major integrated steel plants in India in chronological order?
(A) TISCO Jamshedpur, IISCO Burnpur, Bhilai Steel Plant, Bokaro Steel Plant
(B) IISCO Burnpur, TISCO Jamshedpur, Bokaro Steel Plant, Bhilai Steel Plant
(C) TISCO Jamshedpur, Bhilai Steel Plant, IISCO Burnpur, Bokaro Steel Plant
(D) Bhilai Steel Plant, TISCO Jamshedpur,

Bokaro Steel Plant, IISCO Burnpur

18. Jamnagar in Gujarat is globally recognized for housing the world's largest grassroots refinery and petrochemicals complex. It is owned and operated by which corporate entity?
(A) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)
(B) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)
(C) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)
(D) Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)

19. Identify the correct statement regarding the Information Technology (IT) and Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) industry in India.
(A) Bengaluru's growth as an IT hub was driven by early public sector high-tech units and technical educational institutions.
(B) The IT industry in India is characterized by a heavy operational dependence on imported physical raw materials such as industrial steel and aluminum.
(C) Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) were established primarily to restrict and heavily regulate the export of indigenous software technologies.
(D) The IT industry contributes only a minimal share to India's total service exports when compared directly with the international tourism sector.

20. The emergence of Pune as a major Information Technology hub in Maharashtra is largely centered around which of the following dedicated IT parks?
(A) Hyderabad HITEC City
(B) Bengaluru Electronic City
(C) Hinjewadi Infotech Park
(D) Gurugram Millennium City

21. Which city in Telangana is widely recognized for its HITEC City (Hyderabad Information Technology and Engineering Consultancy City) township?
(A) Hyderabad
(B) Warangal
(C) Secunderabad
(D) Nizamabad

22. Read the following statements regarding the Mumbai-Pune industrial region:
Assertion (A): The Mumbai-Pune industrial region has gradually shifted its dominance from the cotton textile industry to engineering, chemical, and automobile industries.
Reason (R): The introduction of decentralized powerlooms and the physical constraints of urban expansion forced older textile mills to close or relocate.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

23. The Hooghly industrial region stretches predominantly along the banks of the river Hooghly. Which two towns generally define its northern and southern limits?
(A) Asansol to Haldia
(B) Bansberia to Birlanagar
(C) Durgapur to Kolkata
(D) Kharagpur to Diamond Harbour

24. Which of the following regions is traditionally characterized as India's 'Ruhr' due to its rich coal deposits and heavy concentration of iron and steel industries?
(A) The Gujarat Industrial Region
(B) The Gurugram-Delhi-Meerut Region
(C) Chotanagpur Plateau Region
(D) The Kollam-Thiruvananthapuram Region

25. The Bengaluru-Chennai industrial region has witnessed rapid growth in recent decades. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic feature of this region?
(A) The region maintains a strong concentration of aeronautics, machine tools, and advanced electronics industries.
(B) Pykara hydroelectric power project provided crucial early power support to facilitate regional industrial growth.
(C) The region has successfully attracted substantial amounts of foreign direct investment in the automotive sector.
(D) It relied heavily on abundant local coal deposits for power generation.

26. Which of the following industrial policies in India is officially credited with establishing the framework of a mixed economy, dividing industries into public, private, and joint sectors?
(A) Industrial Policy Resolution, 1948
(B) The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956
(C) The Industrial Policy Statement of 1977

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(D) The New Industrial Policy of 1991

27. The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 was heavily influenced by which economic planning model?
(A) Harrod-Domar Model
(B) Mahalanobis Model
(C) Gandhi-Narayan Model
(D) PURA Model

28. Consider the following statements regarding the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956:
I. It classified industries into three categories or schedules (Schedule A, B, and C).
II. Schedule A included industries whose future development would be the exclusive responsibility of the State.
III. It strongly discouraged the development of small-scale and cottage industries.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

29. The New Industrial Policy of 1991 introduced sweeping economic reforms in India. Which of the following was NOT a key feature of this policy?
(A) Abolition of industrial licensing for all projects without any exceptions.
(B) Significant reduction in the number of industries reserved exclusively for the public sector.
(C) Liberalization of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) norms.
(D) Relaxation of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (MRTP) Act restrictions.

30. Which committee's recommendations heavily influenced the introduction of the concept of the 'Joint Sector' in India's industrial landscape during the 1970s?
(A) C. Rangarajan Committee on Financial Sector Reforms
(B) M. Narasimham Committee on Banking Sector Reforms
(C) Dutt Committee on Industrial Licensing
(D) Vijay Kelkar Committee on Public-Private Partnerships

31. The New Industrial Policy of 1991 drastically reduced the list of industries reserved for the public sector. Currently, which among the following sectors remains exclusively reserved for the public sector?
(A) Commercial aerospace manufacturing
(B) Heavy earth-moving machinery
(C) Telecommunication infrastructure
(D) Atomic energy

32. What is the primary objective behind the establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in India?
(A) To strictly isolate domestic manufacturing industries from foreign competition and global market forces.
(B) To systematically provide highly subsidized essential consumer commodities to the local rural population.
(C) To boost exports, attract foreign investment, and generate jobs via duty-free enclaves.
(D) To forcibly relocate all heavily polluting industrial units away from urban population centers.

33. The Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Act, which provides the legal framework for the establishment of SEZs in India, was passed by the Parliament in which year?
(A) 1991
(B) 2000
(C) 2005
(D) 2014

34. Match the following major operational Special Economic Zones (SEZs) / Export Processing Zones (EPZs) in List I with their respective states in List II.
List I: Special Economic Zone / Export Processing Zone
P. Kandla
Q. SEEPZ
R. MEPZ
S. Falta
List II: State
1. Maharashtra
2. Tamil Nadu
3. West Bengal
4. Gujarat
(A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4

35. Which location in India is credited with establishing the country's (and Asia's) first Export Processing Zone (EPZ) in 1965?

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(A) Kandla, Gujarat
(B) Santa Cruz, Mumbai
(C) Noida, Uttar Pradesh
(D) Cochin, Kerala

36. Which of the following correctly identifies a fundamental difference between an Export Processing Zone (EPZ) and a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in India?
(A) EPZs are deemed foreign territory for trade operations, whereas SEZs remain strictly bound by domestic customs duties and laws.
(B) EPZs are operated exclusively by private developers, while SEZs can only be established directly by the Central Government.
(C) SEZs cover manufacturing, trading, and services, whereas EPZs were limited mainly to export manufacturing.
(D) Foreign Direct Investment is strictly prohibited in SEZs, whereas it is heavily promoted and incentivized in EPZs.

37. The 'Make in India' initiative was launched by the Government of India in 2014. What was its initially stated target regarding the manufacturing sector's contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP)?
(A) To substantially increase the manufacturing sector's contribution to 15% of national GDP by 2020.
(B) To increase manufacturing's share to 25% of GDP by 2022.
(C) To rapidly expand the manufacturing sector's share to reach 35% of national GDP by 2025.
(D) To mandate that the manufacturing sector contributes exactly 50% of the total national export value.

38. Read the following statements regarding the 'Make in India' initiative:
Assertion (A): The Make in India initiative aims to facilitate investment, foster innovation, and build best-in-class manufacturing infrastructure.
Reason (R): Enhancing the manufacturing base is essential to absorb the large demographic dividend and reduce reliance on imported goods.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

39. In the context of the Make in India initiative, the government has recognized several sectors to promote manufacturing. Which of the following is NOT typically highlighted as a core focus sector under this specific initiative?
(A) Automobiles and auto components
(B) Retail grocery distribution
(C) Aviation and defense manufacturing
(D) Pharmaceuticals and biotechnology

40. The Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) is one of the world's largest infrastructure projects. It is being developed in partnership with which foreign country?
(A) United States of America
(B) South Korea
(C) Japan
(D) Germany

41. The alignment of the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) is primarily based on the alignment of which major transport infrastructure project?
(A) The Golden Quadrilateral National Highway project
(B) The Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC)
(C) The Bharatmala Pariyojana road network
(D) The Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC)

42. The Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) traverses through multiple states in India. Which of the following states is NOT covered by the DMIC influence area?
(A) Bihar
(B) Haryana
(C) Rajasthan
(D) Gujarat

43. Consider the following statements regarding the DMIC's impact on Rajasthan:
I. Almost 39% of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor passes through Rajasthan.
II. Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana is being developed as a major investment region under DMIC in Rajasthan.
III. Jodhpur-Pali-Marwar is identified as one of the industrial areas to be developed in the first phase.
IV. The DMIC strictly avoids passing through the arid zones of western Rajasthan.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II only

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(B) III only
(C) IV only
(D) II and IV only

44. Under the revised composite classification of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) effective from July 2020, what are the investment and annual turnover thresholds for a "Micro" enterprise?
(A) Investment up to Rs. 1 crore and Turnover up to Rs. 5 crore.
(B) Investment up to Rs. 5 crore and Turnover up to Rs. 25 crore.
(C) Investment up to Rs. 10 crore and Turnover up to Rs. 50 crore.
(D) Investment up to Rs. 25 lakh and Turnover up to Rs. 1 crore.

45. What was the major conceptual change introduced in the 2020 revision of the MSME definition in India?
(A) It removed the distinction between manufacturing and service sector enterprises.
(B) It eliminated the turnover criteria entirely and relied strictly on investment in plant and machinery.
(C) It restricted MSME status only to enterprises operating in rural areas.
(D) It mandated that MSMEs must have a minimum of 50% foreign equity.

46. The MSME sector holds immense significance for the Indian economy. Which of the following correctly describes its approximate contribution to India's total exports in recent years?
(A) Approximately 10–15%
(B) Around 40–45%
(C) Approximately 75–80%
(D) Less than 5%

47. Which of the following is considered the most significant and persistent challenge faced by the MSME sector in India?
(A) An acute oversupply of highly skilled technical labor causing excessive wage inflation.
(B) Unrestricted and completely seamless access to low-interest formal credit mechanisms.
(C) Widespread over-reliance on overly expensive and cutting-edge automated technologies.
(D) Delayed payments from major buyers and government entities.

48. What is the correct sequence of the following MSME classification categories arranged in ascending order based on their prescribed investment limits?
I. Medium Enterprise
II. Micro Enterprise
III. Small Enterprise
(A) I, II, III
(B) II, I, III
(C) II, III, I
(D) III, II, I

49. The Udyam Registration portal was launched by the Government of India primarily for what purpose?
(A) To mandatorily facilitate the annual filing of corporate income tax returns for large firms.
(B) To provide free online paperless MSME registration based on self-declaration.
(C) To digitally track the daily shift attendance of factory workers in large manufacturing units.
(D) To manage the public auctioning of government-owned land directly to heavy industrial units.

50. Industrial pollution is a major environmental concern. The phenomenon where industries discharge excessively hot water directly into rivers or water bodies, thereby reducing dissolved oxygen levels and harming aquatic life, is specifically known as:
(A) Chemical pollution
(B) Eutrophication
(C) Biological magnification
(D) Thermal pollution

51. Match the following polluting industries in List I with their associated prominent environmental concerns in List II.
List I: Industry
P. Leather Tanneries
Q. Thermal Power Plants
R. Textile Dyeing
S. Brick Kilns
List II: Environmental Concern
1. Heavy emission of fly ash
2. Discharge of highly toxic chromium and heavy metals into water bodies
3. Release of heavy particulate matter and topsoil depletion
4. Discharge of colored effluent altering the photosynthetic activity of aquatic plants
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

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(D) 100%

67. Which of the following represents the correct sequence of states arranged in descending order of their total MSME units in India (as per typical Udyam registration trends)?
(A) Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu
(B) Sikkim, Goa, Mizoram
(C) Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh
(D) Kerala, Bihar, Odisha

68. The concept of 'Cluster Development' is heavily utilized in India's industrial policy to support MSMEs. Which of the following best defines an industrial cluster?
(A) A single, massive integrated industrial factory campus owned and operated exclusively by a multinational corporation.
(B) A temporary, seasonal commercial exhibition facility established specifically to promote imported foreign goods.
(C) A spatial cluster of interconnected firms, suppliers, and related institutions in a specific field.
(D) A strictly regulated zoning area where industrial manufacturing activity is prohibited to preserve natural ecology.

69. Consider the following statements regarding the automobile sector in India:
I. The sector was subjected to stringent licensing and quantitative restrictions before 1991.
II. Following liberalization, the sector witnessed the entry of multiple global automotive players.
III. The National Capital Region (NCR), particularly Gurugram-Manesar, is a major cluster for passenger car manufacturing.
IV. The sector does not permit any Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and IV
(B) II, III and IV
(C) I, II and III
(D) I and III only

70. The Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) was launched to organize traditional industries and artisans into clusters. This scheme predominantly benefits which of the following segments?
(A) Heavy engineering and metallurgy
(B) Advanced electronics and semiconductor fabrication
(C) Petrochemicals and polymer processing
(D) Coir, Khadi, and village industries

71. Which of the following represents the correct sequence of the prominent nodes of the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) from North to South?
(A) Dighi Port Node, Pithampur-Dhar-Mhow Node, Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana Node
(B) Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana Node, Pithampur-Dhar-Mhow Node, Dighi Port Node
(C) Pithampur-Dhar-Mhow Node, Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana Node, Dighi Port Node
(D) Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana Node, Dighi Port Node, Pithampur-Dhar-Mhow Node

72. Consider the following statements regarding the challenges related to the MSME sector in India:
I. Inability to access timely and adequate formal credit.
II. Dependence on obsolete technology and lack of technological upgradation.
III. Easy compliance and lack of any regulatory burden.
IV. Lack of access to global markets and modern marketing strategies.
Which of the above statement(s) correctly identify the major hurdles faced by MSMEs?
(A) I, II, and IV
(B) I, III, and IV
(C) II, III, and IV
(D) I and II only

73. A key objective of establishing Industrial Corridors in India is to integrate major industrial clusters with robust transportation networks. The nodal agency responsible for the development of these corridors is:
(A) NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India)
(B) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI, Ministry of Road Transport)
(C) Reserve Bank of India (RBI, Central Monetary Authority)
(D) National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC)

74. Identify the incorrect pair from the following industrial centers and their dominant industry:
(A) Aligarh - Petrochemicals
(B) Surat - Diamond cutting and synthetic textiles

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59. Which of the following regions is aggressively promoted as the 'Medical Devices Park' and a major upcoming hub for bulk drug manufacturing in North India?
(A) Darjeeling district in West Bengal
(B) Baddi-Nalagarh
(C) Jaisalmer district in Rajasthan
(D) Bastar district in Chhattisgarh

60. Read the following statements regarding electronics manufacturing in India:
Assertion (A): The electronics manufacturing sector in India has seen substantial growth, but the value addition within the country remains relatively low compared to overall production value.
Reason (R): A large segment of electronics manufacturing in India is currently limited to final assembly processes, heavily relying on imported high-value electronic components.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

61. Which Indian city is historically referred to as the 'Electronics Capital of India' due to its pioneering role and heavy concentration of electronic and IT hardware industries?
(A) Bengaluru
(B) City of Pune
(C) City of Noida
(D) City of Chennai

62. The National Policy on Electronics (NPE) 2019 was introduced with the vision to position India as a global hub for Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM). Which of the following is a core objective of this policy?
(A) To strictly ban the import of all electronic goods by 2025.
(B) To shift all electronics manufacturing to the public sector entirely.
(C) To promote domestic manufacturing and export in the entire value chain of ESDM.
(D) To focus exclusively on the production of heavy electrical machinery rather than consumer electronics.

63. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the current Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy in the Indian industrial sector.
(A) 100% FDI is allowed under the automatic route for greenfield pharmaceutical projects.
(B) FDI is completely prohibited in the manufacturing of cigars, cheroots, and cigarettes.
(C) 100% FDI is permitted under the automatic route for the establishment of Special Economic Zones.
(D) FDI is prohibited in the manufacturing of medical devices and surgical equipment.

64. In the context of FDI, what is the key difference between a 'Greenfield' investment and a 'Brownfield' investment in the industrial sector?
(A) Greenfield refers strictly to investment in eco-friendly sustainable industries, whereas Brownfield denotes investment in polluting heavy industries.
(B) Greenfield refers exclusively to corporate agricultural investments, whereas Brownfield refers strictly to commercial real estate ventures.
(C) Greenfield builds new facilities from scratch, while Brownfield acquires or leases existing operational facilities.
(D) Greenfield investments must always be routed through the government route, whereas Brownfield investments are processed automatically.

65. The government department nodal for formulating and implementing FDI policy, as well as promoting industrial development in India, is currently known as:
(A) Department of Commerce under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry
(B) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)
(C) Department of Economic Affairs under the Ministry of Finance
(D) Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM)

66. Under India's current FDI regime, what is the maximum permissible limit for Foreign Direct Investment in the defense manufacturing sector under the automatic route (subject to certain conditions)?
(A) 26%
(B) 49%
(C) 74%

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20. (C) Hinjewadi Infotech Park
Pune's emergence as a major Information Technology hub in Maharashtra is anchored by the Rajiv Gandhi Infotech Park located at Hinjewadi. Developed by the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation, this dedicated technology park houses major national and multinational software companies, driving rapid infrastructure and economic development across the Pune region.

21. (A) Hyderabad
HITEC City is a prominent technology township situated in Hyderabad, Telangana. Established to promote software exports, technology development, and back-office services, it houses major international IT corporations and research facilities, helping transform Hyderabad into one of India's premier technology and engineering hubs alongside Bengaluru and Pune.

22. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Mumbai-Pune region historically centered on cotton textiles. However, urban land scarcity, high operational costs, and labor issues led to mill closures. Concurrently, the growth of decentralized powerlooms shifted textile production outward, allowing engineering, chemical, pharmaceutical, and automobile industries to occupy the region's industrial base, explaining the structural transformation.

23. (B) Bansberia to Birlanagar
The Hooghly industrial belt extends as a narrow ribbon along the banks of the Hooghly river in West Bengal. Geographically, this major industrial concentration is bounded by Bansberia in the north and Birlanagar in the south, encompassing major manufacturing centers like Howrah, Kolkata, Rishra, and Serampore along its course.

24. (C) Chotanagpur Plateau Region
The Chotanagpur Plateau region in eastern India is termed the Ruhr of India, drawing comparison to Germany's famous industrial belt. This area holds extensive reserves of coking coal, high-grade iron ore, manganese, and limestone, which catalyzed the dense concentration of integrated iron, steel, metallurgical, and heavy engineering industries.

25. (D) It relied heavily on abundant local coal deposits for power generation.
The Bengaluru-Chennai industrial region developed rapidly around light engineering, textiles, electronics, aeronautics, and automotive industries. Lacking local coal reserves, the region relied initially on hydroelectric power from projects like Pykara, along with imported liquid fuels and thermal power brought from external sources, making heavy reliance on local coal incorrect.

26. (A) Industrial Policy Resolution, 1948
The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1948 was independent India's first formal policy statement on industrial development. It laid the foundation for a mixed economy by demarcating industrial activity into four distinct categories across state monopolies, public-private joint sectors, and private enterprise, ensuring guided central economic planning alongside private participation.

27. (B) Mahalanobis Model
The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 was aligned with the Second Five-Year Plan, which was based on the Mahalanobis strategy. This growth model emphasized heavy capital goods manufacturing, basic infrastructure, and state-led industrialization to establish a self-reliant economy and accelerate long-term capital formation across key domestic sectors.

28. (A) I and II only
The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 divided industries into Schedule A, reserved for the State, Schedule B, progressively State-owned, and Schedule C for private enterprise. Far from discouraging small units, the resolution explicitly emphasized supporting village and small-scale industries to generate employment, mobilize local capital, and reduce regional disparities.

29. (A) Abolition of industrial licensing for all projects without any exceptions.
The New Industrial Policy of 1991 abolished compulsory industrial licensing for most manufacturing sectors to promote economic efficiency. However, licensing was explicitly retained for a small list of strategic, security, and environmentally sensitive sectors, including alcohol, cigarettes, hazardous chemicals, and industrial explosives, making absolute unreserved licensing abolition incorrect.

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(C) Moradabad - Brassware
(D) Ludhiana - Hosiery and bicycles

75. Which of the following states is generally considered a leading state in the manufacturing and export of electronics in India, often housing major contract manufacturing facilities for global smartphone brands?
(A) Assam
(B) Tamil Nadu
(C) Jharkhand
(D) Chhattisgarh

76. Match the following major Indian industrial policies/acts in List I with their corresponding key focus or outcome in List II.
List I: Policy / Act
P. Industrial Policy Resolution 1948
Q. Industrial Policy Resolution 1956
R. MRTP Act 1969
S. New Industrial Policy 1991
List II: Key Focus / Outcome
1. Prevention of concentration of economic power
2. Abolition of industrial licensing for most sectors
3. Defined the mixed economy model
4. Termed as the 'Economic Constitution of India', expanding the public sector
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

77. Read the following statements regarding the aluminum smelting industry:
Assertion (A): The aluminum smelting industry is typically located near sources of abundant and cheap electricity.
Reason (R): The process of extracting aluminum from alumina through electrolysis is highly energy-intensive, making uninterrupted electricity a critical location factor.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

78. In the context of industrial geography, what does the term 'Agglomeration Economies' refer to?
(A) The overall financial losses incurred by manufacturing industries due to excessive urban overpopulation.
(B) The strict municipal zoning laws and environmental regulations that force industries out of city limits.
(C) The cost advantages firms gain by co-locating in a proximity area.
(D) The gradual economic decline of traditional handicraft industries resulting from mechanized factory competition.

79. Which of the following is the most appropriate reason for the sugar industry gradually shifting from North India (UP, Bihar) to Peninsular India (Maharashtra, Karnataka) in recent decades?
(A) Complete depletion of agricultural groundwater reserves across all major farming districts in North India.
(B) The government enacted a strict statutory ban on sugarcane cultivation in North India to prioritize wheat production.
(C) A sudden, widespread increase in soil salinity across the Gangetic plains rendered the land totally unfit for sugarcane.
(D) Peninsular India's climate provides higher sucrose yield and a longer crushing season.

80. Identify the odd one out among the following public sector enterprises based on their core industrial sector.
(A) SAIL
(B) RINL
(C) BHEL
(D) IISCO

81. Match the following 'Maharatna' Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in List I with their primary industrial domain in List II.
List I: CPSE
P. ONGC
Q. NTPC
R. SAIL
S. GAIL
List II: Industrial Domain
1. Power Generation
2. Natural Gas Processing and Distribution
3. Oil and Natural Gas Exploration
4. Iron and Steel Production
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

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82. Which among the following acts as an apex financial institution primarily dedicated to the promotion, financing, and development of the MSME sector in India?
(A) NABARD
(B) EXIM Bank
(C) NHB
(D) SIDBI

83. Read the following statements regarding the cotton textile industry in India:
Assertion (A): The cotton textile industry in India has shown a strong tendency toward decentralization in recent decades.
Reason (R): Cotton is a pure raw material (does not lose weight during manufacturing), and the widespread availability of electricity allows mills to be located closer to markets rather than just raw material sources.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

84. Which of the following industrial regions of India is recognized primarily for its heavy concentration of the jute industry and engineering goods, but has suffered from industrial sickness in the past?
(A) The Gujarat Industrial Region
(B) The Madurai-Coimbatore-Bengaluru Region
(C) The Hooghly Industrial Region
(D) The National Capital Region (NCR)

85. Consider the following statements regarding the fertilizer industry in India:
I. India is wholly self-sufficient in the production of nitrogenous, phosphatic, and potassic fertilizers.
II. The industry is heavily concentrated near oil refineries or along natural gas pipelines.
III. Natural gas acts as a primary feedstock for producing urea.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

86. What is the correct sequence of the following major Indian states arranged in descending order of their total installed capacity for cement production (as of general recent trends)?
I. Madhya Pradesh
II. Andhra Pradesh
III. Rajasthan
(A) III, II, I
(B) I, II, III
(C) II, III, I
(D) III, I, II

87. Under the framework of sustainable industrialization, the 'Extended Producer Responsibility' (EPR) primarily mandates manufacturers to:
(A) Mandatory payment of a fixed percentage of annual corporate profits directly to the local village panchayat administration.
(B) Manage the environmental impact of products throughout their life-cycle, including post-consumer disposal.
(C) Guarantee exclusive employment opportunities to local resident workers living within a strict 10 km radius of the factory.
(D) Provide comprehensive and free medical health insurance coverage to all end consumers using their manufactured products.

88. Consider the following sectors targeted for investment under the Make in India initiative:
I. Space
II. Renewable Energy
III. Biotechnology
IV. Mining
Which of the above sectors are explicitly covered under the Make in India 2.0 action plan?
(A) I and II only
(B) II, III, and IV
(C) I, III, and IV
(D) I, II, III, and IV

89. Which of the following correctly describes a 'Brownfield' project in the context of industrial investment?
(A) Building a new manufacturing facility on an agricultural land.
(B) Investing solely in environmentally sustainable industries.
(C) Shifting an operational industry from an urban area to a rural area.
(D) Upgrading, expanding, or modifying an existing industrial facility.

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90. Arrange the following key events related to India's industrial history in chronological order:

I. Launch of the Make in India initiative
II. Implementation of the New Industrial Policy
III. Enactment of the Special Economic Zones Act
IV. Launch of the Udyam Registration portal for MSMEs

Select the correct order:
(A) II, III, I, IV
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) III, II, IV, I
(D) II, I, III, IV

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ANSWERS

1. (B) Cotton textile, jute, sugar, and edible oils
Agro-based industries derive their primary raw materials directly from agricultural products. Cotton textiles rely on raw cotton, jute industries process natural jute fibers, sugar mills process sugarcane, and edible oil refineries extract oil from oilseeds. Since all four rely on agricultural inputs, they are classified strictly as agro-based manufacturing industries in India.

2. (D) The products of the industry serve as raw materials to manufacture other goods.
Basic or key industries produce essential materials used as raw inputs by other manufacturing sectors. Their output forms the foundation for intermediate and consumer goods production. For example, iron and steel plants manufacture steel that machine-building, automobile, and construction industries require. Hence, providing basic raw materials for other manufacturing sectors defines key industrial operations.

3. (A) Naphtha - Iron and steel industry
Mineral-based industries utilize mineral ores as primary inputs. Bauxite serves as the main ore for aluminum smelting, limestone is the essential raw input for cement production, and silica sand is used in glass manufacturing. In contrast, naphtha is a hydrocarbon product derived from crude oil refining, serving as a key feedstock for petrochemicals, not steel.

4. (C) An industry that can be located in a wide variety of places without significant cost variations.
Footloose industries are not tied to specific raw material sites or markets because their raw inputs and finished goods are light and easy to transport. They depend largely on component parts and accessible road networks. As transport costs do not vary significantly across locations, these industries enjoy high spatial flexibility regarding where manufacturing plants are established.

5. (B) 1854 in Mumbai
Although an early cotton mill was established near Kolkata in 1818, it turned out to be a commercial failure. The modern and successful mechanized cotton textile industry in India officially began when Cowasjee Nanabhai Davar established the Bombay Spinning and Weaving Company in Mumbai in 1854, taking advantage of port access, capital, and local raw cotton.

6. (D) Extensive inland waterways network for cheap transportation.
The concentration of cotton textiles around Mumbai and Ahmedabad was driven by black cotton soil availability, a humid climate ideal for spinning without yarn breakage, financial capital, and port access for exporting goods and importing machinery. Inland waterways played no significant historical role in this coastal region, as rail and port transport dominated goods distribution.

7. (A) I and II only
India leads globally in raw jute and jute goods manufacturing, with a major concentration along the Hooghly basin due to raw material access, abundant water, and port facilities. However, the National Jute Board is a statutory body headquartered in Kolkata, West Bengal, the heart of the jute industry, rather than in New Delhi.

8. (C) The primary jute-producing areas went to East Pakistan while the mills remained in India.
During the partition of India in 1947, the jute industry suffered a severe structural disruption. Approximately three-fourths of the fertile raw jute-producing land fell within East Pakistan, whereas nearly all processing mills remained clustered along the Hooghly river in India, creating an acute raw material deficit for domestic Indian mills.

9. (D) Bhilwara
Bhilwara district is renowned as the main textile hub of Rajasthan, producing major quantities of synthetic yarn and suiting fabrics. Due to its dense network of weaving, spinning, and processing units, it accounts for a large share of the state's total textile output, earning it the regional epithet Manchester of Rajasthan.

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10. (A) Soviet Union (USSR)
The Bhilai Steel Plant, located in the Durg district of Chhattisgarh, was set up under an agreement signed in 1955 between India and the Soviet Union. Established during the Second Five-Year Plan, it served as a major public sector steel manufacturing plant designed to boost India's heavy industrial growth trajectory and development.

11. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-1
Rourkela Steel Plant in Odisha was established with German technical collaboration, while Durgapur Steel Plant in West Bengal received technology from the United Kingdom. Both Bokaro Steel Plant in Jharkhand and Visakhapatnam Steel Plant in Andhra Pradesh were constructed with technical and financial assistance provided by the Soviet Union.

12. (B) Metallurgical coking coal
Integrated iron and steel plants require large quantities of raw inputs, with metallurgical coking coal being a primary weight-losing raw material. Since coal loses substantial weight during high-temperature combustion and reduction, smelting facilities are heavily pulled toward coking coal deposits to minimize long-distance transport costs of bulk industrial raw inputs.

13. (A) Integrated plants handle raw materials to steel making in one complex, while mini plants use electric arc furnaces for scrap or sponge iron.
Integrated steel plants operate as large single complexes that process raw iron ore, coal, and limestone through blast furnaces to make steel. In contrast, mini steel plants operate on a smaller scale, using electric arc or induction furnaces to melt recycled scrap iron or sponge iron into specialized secondary steel products efficiently.

14. (C) Subarnarekha and Kharkai rivers
The Tata Iron and Steel Company plant at Jamshedpur, Jharkhand, is strategically situated at the confluence of the Subarnarekha and Kharkai rivers. This location ensures an uninterrupted freshwater supply needed for industrial cooling and processing, alongside proximity to rich iron ore deposits in Mayurbhanj and coking coal from Jharia.

15. (D) Automobile manufacturing
Chennai is widely referred to as the Detroit of India because of its massive automotive industrial ecosystem. The city and its surrounding industrial corridors host assembly facilities for major global and national automobile manufacturers, component suppliers, and tire producers, driving over thirty percent of India's total automotive manufacturing output.

16. (C) IV only
Petrochemicals are derived from petroleum refining and natural gas processing, using naphtha and ethylene as essential feedstocks. The Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited built the initial major plant at Vadodara. Petrochemical facilities are often situated near coastal oil refineries or ports to facilitate easy feedstock import, making inland isolation incorrect.

17. (A) TISCO Jamshedpur, IISCO Burnpur, Bhilai Steel Plant, Bokaro Steel Plant
TISCO at Jamshedpur was established first in 1907, followed by IISCO at Burnpur formed through mergers in the early twentieth century. Post-independence planning brought state-backed integrated plants: Bhilai Steel Plant was established during the Second Five-Year Plan in 1955, and Bokaro Steel Plant was initiated later during the 1960s.

18. (D) Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)
The refinery complex located at Jamnagar, Gujarat, is the largest grassroots oil refining and petrochemical complex in the world. Owned and operated by Reliance Industries Limited, it possesses immense crude oil processing capacity, integrated petrochemical production units, and dedicated deep-water port infrastructure to export refined petroleum products globally.

19. (A) Bengaluru's growth as an IT hub was driven by early public sector high-tech units and technical educational institutions.
Bengaluru grew into India's premier IT center because of early investments in public sector high-technology entities like HAL, BEL, and ITI, alongside premier academic institutions like the Indian Institute of Science. IT relies on skilled human capital and digital infrastructure rather than physical raw materials, making software exports a huge service sector driver.

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(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

52. Consider the following statements regarding the concept of 'Zero Liquid Discharge' (ZLD) in industrial sustainability:
I. ZLD aims to completely eliminate the discharge of liquid industrial waste into the environment.
II. It involves the treatment, recycling, and reuse of all wastewater produced during industrial processes.
III. It encourages industries to pump untreated effluents directly into deep underground aquifers.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

53. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the apex statutory body for pollution control in India, was originally constituted under which of the following Acts?
(A) The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act passed in 1981
(B) The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
(C) The Environment (Protection) Act passed by Parliament in 1986
(D) The National Green Tribunal Act passed by Parliament in 2010

54. Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) are crucial for sustainable industrial operations. What is the primary function of an ETP?
(A) To continuously filter smoke and toxic gaseous emissions before releasing them from factory chimneys.
(B) To systematically collect and convert urban solid municipal waste into rich organic compost.
(C) To generate renewable electricity on a large scale using non-hazardous industrial solid waste.
(D) To treat industrial wastewater and lower toxicity before disposal or reuse.

55. Which sector among the following is historically considered one of the highest contributors to industrial water pollution in the Ganga river basin, particularly around Kanpur?
(A) Electronics assembly
(B) Leather tanning
(C) Automobile manufacturing
(D) Information Technology

56. Match the following major pharmaceutical manufacturing hubs in List I with their respective states in List II.
List I: Pharmaceutical Hub
P. Baddi
Q. Visakhapatnam
R. Ahmedabad
S. Sikkim (Pakyong/Rangpo)
List II: State
1. Gujarat
2. Himachal Pradesh
3. North-Eastern Hub
4. Andhra Pradesh
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(D) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3

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57. India's pharmaceutical industry holds a strong global position. Which of the following statements accurately reflects its global standing?
(A) India is the world's largest importer of finished generic medicines.
(B) The Indian pharmaceutical sector completely relies on domestic sources for Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) and imports zero raw materials.
(C) India primarily exports patented luxury drugs rather than affordable generic medicines.
(D) India ranks 3rd worldwide in pharmaceutical production by volume.

58. The Indian government has launched the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for the pharmaceutical sector primarily to address which major strategic vulnerability?
(A) High import dependence for key starting materials and active pharmaceutical ingredients.
(B) Severe shortage of certified and skilled pharmacists working in rural government public hospitals.
(C) Prohibitive expenditure associated with conducting advanced multi-phase clinical trials abroad.
(D) Total absence of foreign direct investment flowing into brick-and-mortar retail pharmacy chains.

30. (C) Dutt Committee on Industrial Licensing
The Industrial Licensing Policy Inquiry Committee, commonly known as the Dutt Committee, was appointed in 1967. Its 1969 report recommended the concept of a Joint Sector, where financial investments from public institutions could combine with private managerial expertise to prevent monopolistic wealth concentration and guide major domestic industrial investments.

31. (D) Atomic energy
The 1991 reforms drastically cut public sector industrial reservations down to key strategic fields. Over subsequent policy revisions, most sectors were opened to private and foreign investment. Currently, atomic energy production and specific core railway operations remain strictly reserved under public sector control due to national security and strategic interest.

32. (C) To boost exports, attract foreign investment, and generate jobs via duty-free enclaves.
Special Economic Zones are geographically designated enclaves designed to operate as foreign territories for trade and tariff purposes. The central objective of establishing these zones is to generate additional economic activity, enhance international exports of goods and services, attract foreign direct investment, and create substantial industrial employment opportunities.

33. (C) 2005
To provide a stable, long-term legal and regulatory framework for Special Economic Zones, the Parliament of India passed the Special Economic Zones Act in 2005. The legislation, along with the SEZ Rules that came into effect in 2006, standardized administrative procedures, fiscal incentives, and infrastructure support mechanisms across states.

34. (A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
Kandla Special Economic Zone is situated in Gujarat, whereas SEEPZ operates as an electronics processing facility in Mumbai, Maharashtra. MEPZ functions as a major export processing hub in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, and Falta operates as a major export processing enclave located along the Hooghly river in West Bengal.

35. (A) Kandla, Gujarat
India recognized early the potential of export-oriented manufacturing by establishing Asia's first Export Processing Zone at Kandla, Gujarat, in 1965. Located near the port, this zone provided tax relief and streamlined infrastructure facilities to spur export manufacturing, laying the groundwork for India's modern Special Economic Zone policy framework.

36. (C) SEZs cover manufacturing, trading, and services, whereas EPZs were limited mainly to export manufacturing.
Export Processing Zones were focused primarily on industrial manufacturing and physical export assembly. The Special Economic Zone framework introduced a broader integrated model, encompassing manufacturing, commercial trading, financial services, logistics, and residential social infrastructure within an integrated duty-free enclave designed as deemed foreign territory for trade operations.

37. (B) To increase manufacturing's share to 25% of GDP by 2022.
Launched in September 2014, the Make in India initiative sought to transform the country into a global manufacturing hub. A major economic target set under the policy framework was to boost the manufacturing sector's contribution to twenty-five percent of Gross Domestic Product by 2022 while creating one hundred million jobs.

38. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Make in India initiative was conceived to attract foreign capital investment, foster innovation, protect intellectual property, and build industrial infrastructure. Expanding domestic manufacturing is necessary to generate formal employment for the growing young workforce and reduce dependency on imports, directly providing the strategic rationale behind this national initiative.

39. (B) Retail grocery distribution
The Make in India initiative focuses on industrial sectors capable of building large-scale domestic manufacturing capacity and expanding exports, such as automobiles, defense equipment, aviation, pharmaceuticals, and renewable energy. Retail grocery distribution is a local service sector trade activity, not a core focus sector under industrial manufacturing promotion plans.

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60. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
India's electronics sector has grown, particularly in mobile phone manufacturing. However, domestic value addition remains low because local production mainly consists of assembling imported semi-knocked-down components. The lack of indigenous component fabrication units forces reliance on foreign parts, directly explaining the lower domestic proportion of value addition.

61. (A) Bengaluru
Bengaluru earned the title Electronics Capital of India due to its pioneering role in developing high-technology industries. The establishment of public sector electronics units, software developments in Electronic City, and research institutes positioned the city as the nation's premier hub for software, electronics hardware, and technological innovation.

62. (C) To promote domestic manufacturing and export in the entire value chain of ESDM.
The National Policy on Electronics 2019 aims to position India as a global hub for Electronics System Design and Manufacturing. It promotes domestic manufacturing across the entire value chain, encourages component manufacturing, supports semiconductor design, and aims to boost electronic exports while generating high-skilled employment across the nation.

63. (D) FDI is prohibited in the manufacturing of medical devices and surgical equipment.
Under current Foreign Direct Investment policy, up to one hundred percent FDI is permitted under the automatic route for greenfield pharma, SEZ development, and medical devices manufacturing. Prohibitions on FDI strictly apply to tobacco manufacturing, real estate business, atomic energy, and lottery operations, making the medical device prohibition claim incorrect.

64. (C) Greenfield builds new facilities from scratch, while Brownfield acquires or leases existing operational facilities.
Greenfield investment refers to establishing new operational infrastructure and production facilities from the ground up where no prior facility exists. In contrast, Brownfield investment involves buying, leasing, or acquiring existing commercial infrastructure, industrial facilities, or operating business entities to upgrade or expand current domestic operational capacity.

65. (B) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)
The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, operating under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, serves as the central nodal agency for formulating foreign direct investment policies, facilitating industrial growth, overseeing domestic trade, and coordinating national investment promotion initiatives across various economic sectors in India.

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66. (C) 74%
To promote indigenous defense manufacturing and attract advanced technology, the Indian government revised the Foreign Direct Investment policy. Under current norms, FDI in defense manufacturing is permitted up to seventy-four percent under the automatic route, while investments beyond seventy-four percent require formal government approval based on state-of-the-art technology access.

67. (A) Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu
Industrial registration trends under the Udyam portal indicate that industrialized states host the highest concentrations of MSME enterprises. Maharashtra leads the nation in total registered MSME units, closely followed by Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, driven by developed industrial clusters, large domestic consumer markets, and well-established commercial networks.

68. (C) A spatial cluster of interconnected firms, suppliers, and related institutions in a specific field.
An industrial cluster is a geographic concentration of interconnected businesses, specialized suppliers, service providers, and associated institutions in a particular field. Co-locating in a region enables small firms to share infrastructure, benefit from localized labor pools, lower transport costs, and foster collaborative innovation and commercial efficiency.

69. (C) I, II and III
Before 1991, the automobile industry was strictly regulated by industrial licensing and import barriers. Economic liberalization enabled major foreign automakers to set up manufacturing operations in India. The National Capital Region, especially the Gurugram-Manesar belt,

50. (D) Thermal pollution
Thermal pollution occurs when industrial facilities discharge hot water used for cooling directly into surrounding natural water bodies. The increase in water temperature severely reduces dissolved oxygen capacity, disrupts aquatic ecosystems, triggers metabolic stress in fish, and damages delicate aquatic biodiversity present in affected rivers and streams.

51. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Leather tanneries release toxic chromium effluents into local water bodies, while coal thermal power plants produce substantial fly ash emissions. Textile dyeing units discharge colored chemical wastewater that blocks sunlight and impairs plant photosynthesis, and brick kilns generate heavy particulate emissions while consuming fertile topsoil.

52. (A) I and II only
Zero Liquid Discharge is an advanced industrial wastewater management strategy designed to eliminate liquid waste discharge into natural environments. It involves treating, purifying, and continuously recycling all industrial effluents. Pumping untreated toxic waste into underground aquifers is ecologically harmful and violates basic environmental protection standards.

53. (B) The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
The Central Pollution Control Board was constituted as a statutory organization under the provisions of the Water Prevention and Control of Pollution Act of 1974. It was later entrusted with powers and functions under the Air Act of 1981 to enforce national environmental quality standards and pollution control regulations across India.

54. (D) To treat industrial wastewater and lower toxicity before disposal or reuse.
Effluent Treatment Plants are specialized industrial installations designed to treat chemical and biological wastewater produced during manufacturing processes. By removing organic pollutants, heavy metals, suspended solids, and toxic compounds, ETPs reduce toxicity levels to meet environmental discharge standards or permit safe water recycling within factory manufacturing facilities.

55. (B) Leather tanning
The leather tanning sector in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, has historically been a major source of toxic water pollution along the river Ganga. Tanneries discharge untreated effluents containing chromium, organic sludge, and chemical salts, leading to severe ecological contamination of the river and necessitating stringent environmental regulatory interventions.

56. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Baddi functions as a major pharmaceutical manufacturing hub in Himachal Pradesh, Visakhapatnam hosts dedicated pharma clusters in Andhra Pradesh, Ahmedabad represents a prominent pharmaceutical industrial sector in Gujarat, and towns like Pakyong and Rangpo in Sikkim have established tax-incentivized pharmaceutical production units in the North-East region.

57. (D) India ranks 3rd worldwide in pharmaceutical production by volume.
The Indian pharmaceutical industry occupies a global position, ranking third worldwide in terms of production volume and fourteenth in total market value. Recognized as the pharmacy of the world, India supplies affordable generic drugs and vaccines globally, though it relies on imported active pharmaceutical ingredients for specific raw manufacturing inputs.

58. (A) High import dependence for key starting materials and active pharmaceutical ingredients.
India relies heavily on foreign imports for Key Starting Materials and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, creating strategic supply chain vulnerabilities. The Production Linked Incentive scheme for pharmaceuticals was introduced to boost domestic manufacturing of these critical raw materials, enhance supply chain security, and encourage indigenous corporate investment.

59. (B) Baddi-Nalagarh
The Baddi-Nalagarh industrial belt in Himachal Pradesh is a leading pharmaceutical manufacturing zone in North India. Due to central tax exemptions and infrastructure incentives, it attracted major drug manufacturers and is currently expanding into a dedicated Medical Devices Park and bulk drug manufacturing hub.

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cultivated in southern states like Maharashtra and Karnataka achieves higher sucrose content and enjoys a longer crushing season due to milder winters, enabling cooperative sugar mills to operate more productively and profitably than their northern counterparts.

80. (C) BHEL
SAIL, RINL, and IISCO are central public enterprise entities operating directly in the iron and steel manufacturing sector. In contrast, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited is a public sector engineering enterprise that manufactures heavy electrical equipment, power plant turbines, transformers, and industrial machinery, setting it apart from primary steel producing enterprises.

81. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation operates in crude petroleum exploration and production, whereas NTPC Limited is the leading power generation company in India. Steel Authority of India Limited oversees integrated iron and steel manufacturing, while GAIL India Limited manages natural gas processing, transmission, pipeline infrastructure, and domestic distribution networks.

82. (D) SIDBI
The Small Industries Development Bank of India serves as the principal financial institution for promoting, financing, and developing micro, small, and medium enterprises. Established under a Special Act of Parliament, SIDBI coordinates functions of institutions engaged in similar activities, offering direct lending, refinancing, and capital development support to small MSME enterprises.

83. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Raw cotton is a pure material that loses negligible weight during manufacturing, meaning yarn output matches raw cotton mass. Because raw cotton can be transported cleanly without weight-loss penalties, electricity availability allows modern cotton mills to disperse away from farming belts to locate near major urban market centers across India.

84. (C) The Hooghly Industrial Region
The Hooghly industrial region along the river Hooghly in West Bengal is traditionally known for its jute mills, heavy engineering plants, and paper manufacturing facilities. Over time, factors like raw material shortages, aging machinery, labor disputes, and market shifts led to widespread industrial sickness across several older manufacturing units.

85. (B) II and III only
Fertilizer plants are strategically located near petroleum refineries or gas pipelines like HBJ because natural gas serves as a crucial feedstock for nitrogenous fertilizers like urea. However, India lacks commercial potassic ore deposits and imports its entire requirement of potassic fertilizers, making full national self-sufficiency in all fertilizers incorrect.

86. (A) III, II, I
Cement manufacturing requires bulky raw materials like limestone and gypsum, favoring plants near mineral deposits. Rajasthan leads India in installed cement manufacturing capacity, driven by rich limestone reserves across its southern and western districts. Andhra Pradesh follows with extensive limestone belts, while Madhya Pradesh holds a substantial third-ranking position in national cement production capacity.

87. (B) Manage the environmental impact of products throughout their life-cycle, including post-consumer disposal.
Extended Producer Responsibility is an environmental policy approach that holds manufacturers accountable for the complete post-consumer life-cycle of their products. EPR mandates companies to collect, recycle, or safely dispose of post-consumer waste like plastics, e-waste, and packaging, incentivizing cleaner product design and sustainable waste management practices across industrial manufacturing.

88. (D) I, II, III, and IV
The Make in India 2.0 initiative expanded its focus across critical economic sectors to boost domestic manufacturing and technological self-reliance. Space technology, renewable energy equipment, biotechnology manufacturing, and mining activity are explicitly recognized focus areas designed to attract capital investment, promote technological innovation, and expand high-skilled employment across India.

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emerged as a premier automobile hub. However, one hundred percent FDI is permitted in automobiles.

70. (D) Coir, Khadi, and village industries
The Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries was launched by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. It aims to organize traditional artisans and rural industries, including Khadi, coir, village craft clusters, and handlooms, into competitive production clusters to enhance sustainable product marketability and rural employment.

71. (B) Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana Node, Pithampur-Dhar-Mhow Node, Dighi Port Node
Arranged geographically from north to south, the Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana investment region is situated in northern Rajasthan. Moving further southward along the corridor alignment, the Pithampur-Dhar-Mhow industrial node lies in Madhya Pradesh, while the Dighi Port industrial enclave is located at the southern end on the coast of Maharashtra.

72. (A) I, II, and IV
Small enterprises face major structural hurdles including inadequate access to formal bank credit, reliance on obsolete technology, and limited exposure to international distribution networks. Compliance burdens and regulatory hurdles remain significant operating challenges rather than easy processes, making the assertion of negligible regulatory burden false in the Indian context.

73. (D) National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC)
The National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation operates as the central agency entrusted with coordinating, monitoring, and managing the development of industrial corridors across India. Operating under DPIIT, NICDC facilitates overall project planning, land acquisition, trunk infrastructure development, and private investment attraction across designated industrial investment nodes.

74. (A) Aligarh - Petrochemicals
Aligarh in Uttar Pradesh is globally famous for its traditional lock manufacturing and hardware light engineering industries, not petrochemicals. In contrast, Surat is renowned for diamond cutting and synthetic textiles, Moradabad for brass metalware handicrafts, and Ludhiana for hosiery manufacturing and bicycle industrial production operations.

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75. (B) Tamil Nadu
Tamil Nadu has emerged as a top manufacturing and export state for electronics in India. Hosting major industrial clusters around Sriperumbudur and Chennai, the state houses large contract assembly facilities for global mobile phone brand manufacturers, specialized hardware firms, and component exporters, supported by skilled technical labor and port facilities.

76. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
The 1948 policy established the national mixed economy model, while the 1956 resolution expanded public sector control and earned the title Economic Constitution of India. The MRTP Act of 1969 sought to prevent economic wealth concentration, and the 1991 Industrial Policy abolished licensing across most sectors to liberalize the economy.

77. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Aluminum extraction from alumina involves electrolytic reduction in reduction cells, an operation that consumes continuous electrical energy. Power costs constitute a massive proportion of total production expenditure. Consequently, aluminum smelters are located near cheap power sources, such as hydroelectric plants or captive thermal power stations, directly explaining this industrial location choice.

78. (C) The cost advantages firms gain by co-locating in a proximity area.
Agglomeration economies refer to economic advantages and cost savings that individual manufacturing firms achieve by locating close to each other within an industrial cluster. Benefits include shared physical infrastructure, access to specialized labor pools, reduced transportation costs for intermediate goods, and accelerated technological knowledge sharing across local co-located industries.

79. (D) Peninsular India's climate provides higher sucrose yield and a longer crushing season.
The sugar industry has shifted towards Peninsular India due to favorable maritime-influenced tropical climatic conditions. Sugarcane

(D) Kochi, Mangaluru, Mumbai, Kandla

20. What is the central strategic objective of the Sagarmala Project?
(A) To promote port-led development and reduce overall logistics costs in the country
(B) To physically interlink all the major peninsular river basins across coastal states
(C) To fully modernize and subsidize the deep-sea commercial fishing fleet of India
(D) To construct a high-speed coastal trunk highway intended for military deployment

21. Jaipur Metro Phase 1A was the first metro line to become operational in Rajasthan. Which two stations did it initially connect?
(A) Badi Chaupar to Chandpole
(B) Mansarovar to Badi Chaupar
(C) Mansarovar to Chandpole
(D) Sindhi Camp to Sitapura

22. In the context of metro rail networks in India, which of the following cities currently does NOT have an operational Metro rail system?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Lucknow
(C) Kanpur
(D) Kochi

23. Most modern Metro rail systems in India, including the Jaipur Metro, are constructed using which of the following railway gauges?
(A) Indian Broad Gauge
(B) Meter Gauge System
(C) Narrow Gauge System
(D) Standard Gauge

24. Consider the following statements regarding the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail (MAHSR) project:
I. It is India's first high-speed rail line currently under construction.
II. The project utilizes Japanese Shinkansen technology.
III. It is being primarily funded by the World Bank.
IV. The maximum operational speed planned for this train is 320 km/h.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I, II, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

25. Which mode of transport accounts for the highest share of total freight movement (in terms of ton-kilometers) in India?
(A) Railways
(B) Inland Waterways
(C) Roadways
(D) Coastal Shipping

26. The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), aimed at providing all-weather road connectivity to unconnected villages, was launched in which year?
(A) 1998
(B) 2000
(C) 2005
(D) 2014

27. Under the original guidelines of PMGSY, what was the minimum population criterion for an unconnected habitation in plain areas to be eligible for road connectivity?
(A) 250 persons
(B) 500 persons
(C) 1000 persons
(D) 2000 persons

28. Which of the following elements is generally considered an 'Odd One Out' in the context of India's Core Highway Network classification?
(A) National Highways
(B) Village Footpaths
(C) State Highways
(D) Major District Roads

29. Match List I with List II.
List I: Airports
P. Rajiv Gandhi International Airport
Q. Veer Savarkar International Airport
R. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport
S. Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport
List II: Cities
1. Nagpur
2. Varanasi
3. Hyderabad
4. Port Blair
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

30. The Border Roads Organisation (BRO), which develops and maintains road networks in India's

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89. (D) Upgrading, expanding, or modifying an existing industrial facility.
In industrial economics, a Brownfield project involves investing in, upgrading, expanding, or redeveloping an existing commercial facility, factory site, or operational infrastructure. Unlike Greenfield developments that require building new structures on previously undeveloped land, Brownfield projects utilize existing physical infrastructure, utility connections, and operational sites to increase output productivity.

90. (A) II, III, I, IV
Economic policy developments followed a distinct timeline: the New Industrial Policy was implemented in 1991, laying the base for market reforms. Parliament passed the Special Economic Zones Act in 2005. The Make in India initiative was launched in 2014, and the paperless Udyam Registration portal for MSMEs was launched in 2020.

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CHAPTER 09
Transport of India

1. Which National Highway connects Delhi and Mumbai, passing extensively through Rajasthan and forming a crucial part of the Golden Quadrilateral?
(A) NH 27
(B) NH 52
(C) NH 48
(D) NH 44

2. The Road Infrastructure Development Company of Rajasthan (RIDCOR) was established primarily for which of the following purposes?
(A) To construct rural roads under PMGSY
(B) To implement the Mega Highways Project in the state
(C) To manage and operate the Jaipur Metro
(D) To oversee the development of National Highways

3. Under the new National Highway numbering system, even-numbered highways generally indicate which of the following geographical orientations?
(A) North-South alignment
(B) East-West alignment
(C) Diagonal alignment connecting major ports
(D) Circular ring roads around metropolitan cities

4. Match List I with List II.
List I: Major Ports
P. Kandla
Q. Mormugao
R. Paradip
S. Ennore
List II: States
1. Tamil Nadu
2. Gujarat
3. Goa
4. Odisha
(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2

5. The headquarters of the North Western Railway (NWR) zone, which covers a majority of the railway network in Rajasthan, is located in which city?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Bikaner
(C) Jaipur
(D) Ajmer

6. Approximately what percentage of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) passes through the state of Rajasthan, making it a critical hub for industrial development?
(A) 15%
(B) 25%
(C) 39%
(D) 55%

7. Which of the following Railway Zones does NOT have any territorial jurisdiction within the state of Rajasthan?
(A) North Western Railway
(B) West Central Railway
(C) Western Railway
(D) South Central Railway

8. In the context of the Indian economy, which of the following commodities accounts for the highest share of total revenue-earning freight traffic carried by Indian Railways?
(A) Foodgrains
(B) Coal
(C) Iron Ore
(D) Cement

9. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Western Dedicated Freight Corridor is expected to significantly boost the industrialization of Rajasthan.
Reason (R): The corridor will enable the creation of logistics parks and industrial nodes along its extensive route within the state.
In light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:

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(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) (A) is true but (R) is false
(D) (A) is false but (R) is true

10. Which airport in Rajasthan was the first to become operational under the central government's UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) scheme?
(A) Maharana Pratap Airport, Udaipur
(B) Nal Airport, Bikaner
(C) Jodhpur Civil Airport
(D) Kishangarh Airport, Ajmer

11. Which of the following statements regarding the UDAN scheme is incorrect?
(A) Airfares are completely market-driven with no price caps on any seats
(B) It aims to improve regional air connectivity in unserved and underserved airports
(C) Viability Gap Funding (VGF) is provided to airlines participating in the scheme
(D) The scheme involves financial contributions from both the Central and State governments

12. As of current civil aviation classifications, how many operational international airports are there in Rajasthan?
(A) One
(B) Two
(C) Three
(D) Four

13. What is the primary objective of the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) mechanism in India's transport infrastructure projects?
(A) To cover total capital expenses for non-commercial social welfare infrastructure projects
(B) To provide grant funding for economically viable but financially unviable PPP projects
(C) To reimburse state governments for administrative and land acquisition project expenses
(D) To subsidize the operational and maintenance expenses of state transport undertakings

14. Consider the following statements regarding Inland Waterways in India:
I. The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) was constituted in 1986.
II. National Waterway 1 (NW-1) is located on the Brahmaputra River.
III. National Waterway 2 (NW-2) connects Sadiya to Dhubri.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II, and III

15. The Hazira-Vijaipur-Jagdishpur (HVJ) pipeline, India's first cross-state gas pipeline, passes through which of the following districts of Rajasthan?
(A) Jaisalmer and Barmer
(B) Jaipur and Ajmer
(C) Kota and Baran
(D) Bikaner and Churu

NODIA

16. The Jamnagar-Loni LPG pipeline network traverses through the state of Rajasthan. Which of the following is the primary advantage of transporting LPG via pipeline over road transport?
(A) It requires significantly lower initial capital expenditure during construction
(B) It completely eliminates the need for operating local bottling facilities
(C) It offers greater flexibility for dynamic routing modifications during transit
(D) It provides a safe, continuous, and economical mode of bulk transport

17. The Amritsar-Jamnagar Expressway, developed under the Bharatmala Pariyojana, passes through several districts of Rajasthan. Which of the following is NOT one of those districts?
(A) Sri Ganganagar
(B) Bikaner
(C) Udaipur
(D) Barmer

18. What is the primary commodity transported through the Barmer-Salaya pipeline?
(A) Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)
(B) Crude Oil
(C) Natural Gas
(D) Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF)

19. Select the correct geographical sequence of the following major ports on the Western coast of India, ordered from North to South:
(A) Kandla, Mumbai, Mangaluru, Kochi
(B) Mumbai, Kandla, Kochi, Mangaluru
(C) Kandla, Mangaluru, Mumbai, Kochi

40. (C) Japan
The Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor project is a mega-infrastructure project developed as a joint venture between the Government of India and the Government of Japan. Japan provides technical expertise, soft loans through its agency JICA, and direct corporate equity investment to develop smart industrial cities along the freight corridor.

41. (D) The Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC)
The Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor is designed along the alignment of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor. By building high-capacity freight railway tracks between Dadri near Delhi and Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Mumbai, the corridor ensures rapid, high-volume goods transport connecting interior industrial nodes with major maritime export gateways.

42. (A) Bihar
The Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor traverses six western and northern states, including Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Maharashtra, along with the National Capital Region. Located in eastern India, Bihar falls outside the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor alignment and is completely excluded from the DMIC influence area.

43. (C) IV only
Rajasthan holds nearly thirty-nine percent of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor's length. Major industrial investment regions include Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana and Jodhpur-Pali-Marwar. The corridor intentionally passes through western industrial nodes, making the claim that it strictly avoids western arid areas incorrect, as these western nodes receive substantial heavy infrastructure investment.

44. (A) Investment up to Rs. 1 crore and Turnover up to Rs. 5 crore.
Effective from July 2020, the revised classification criteria for MSMEs combine plant investment and annual business turnover. Under this composite criteria, a Micro enterprise is defined as an entity with plant and machinery investment not exceeding one crore rupees and an annual business turnover not exceeding five crore rupees.

45. (A) It removed the distinction between manufacturing and service sector enterprises.
Under the previous regulatory framework, manufacturing and service enterprises were categorized under separate investment limits. The revised 2020 MSME classification eliminated this structural division, creating a single unified composite definition based on investment and turnover that applies equally to manufacturing and service sector businesses across India.

46. (B) Around 40–45%
Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises play a pivotal role in driving economic growth and national trade. In recent years, the MSME sector has consistently accounted for approximately forty to forty-five percent of India's total merchandise exports, making significant contributions to gross foreign exchange earnings and widespread employment creation.

47. (D) Delayed payments from major buyers and government entities.
Delayed payments from large industrial buyers and government agencies represent one of the most severe challenges facing MSMEs. Stagnant receivables severely strain working capital liquidity, forcing small businesses into financial distress, debt default, and operational disruption despite maintaining active order books and productive manufacturing operations.

48. (C) II, III, I
The revised MSME definition classifies firms in ascending order of investment and turnover thresholds. Micro enterprises have the lowest limit with investment up to one crore rupees, followed by Small enterprises with investment up to ten crore rupees, and Medium enterprises with investment up to fifty crore rupees.

49. (B) To provide free online paperless MSME registration based on self-declaration.
Launched by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, the Udyam portal offers a simplified, free, online, and paperless registration process. Based entirely on self-declaration using Aadhaar and PAN details, it enables businesses to register seamlessly and obtain official MSME status without uploading physical documentation.

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border areas, operates under the administrative control of which ministry?
(A) Ministry of Defence
(B) Ministry of Home Affairs
(C) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
(D) Ministry of Rural Development

31. 'Project Chetak', a vital infrastructure development project executed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), primarily focuses on maintaining border roads in which state?
(A) Arunachal Pradesh
(B) Uttarakhand
(C) Rajasthan
(D) Sikkim

32. The LEADS (Logistics Ease Across Different States) index, which assesses the logistics infrastructure and services of Indian states, is published by which entity?
(A) NITI Aayog
(B) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
(C) Reserve Bank of India
(D) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

33. What is the main objective of the National Logistics Policy (NLP) launched in 2022?
(A) To nationalize and consolidate all private freight transport enterprises operating in India
(B) To mandate the exclusive deployment of electric vehicles across all commercial logistics
(C) To reduce national logistics costs in India to match global benchmark levels
(D) To forcefully shift all long-distance national freight traffic from roadways to railways

34. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): In India, road transport commands a larger share of freight and passenger movement than rail transport.
Reason (R): Road transport provides door-to-door service and flexibility in route selection which railways cannot inherently offer.
In light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) (A) is true but (R) is false
(D) (A) is false but (R) is true

35. Which of the following is the first passenger ropeway established in Rajasthan?
(A) Mansapurna Karni Mata Ropeway, Udaipur
(B) Savitri Mata Ropeway, Pushkar
(C) Samod Hanumanji Ropeway, Jaipur
(D) Sundha Mata Ropeway, Jalore

36. The Government of India's 'Parvatmala Pariyojana' is specifically designed for the development of which type of transport infrastructure?
(A) National Ropeways
(B) High-altitude tunnels
(C) Mountain railways
(D) Border highways

37. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 introduced statutory protection for 'Good Samaritans'. Who among the following best defines a Good Samaritan in this context?
(A) An authorized traffic enforcement officer managing traffic control at an emergency accident site
(B) A registered medical officer on official duty in a government hospital emergency department
(C) A person voluntarily rendering immediate emergency aid to a road crash victim without reward
(D) A licensed insurance representative assisting surviving family members with accident claim settlements

38. Modern road safety strategies globally are based on the '4 E's'. Which of the following is NOT one of the standard '4 E's' of road safety?
(A) Economy
(B) Education
(C) Enforcement
(D) Engineering

39. Consider the following statements regarding Public-Private Partnership (PPP) models in Indian road construction:
I. In the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) Toll model, the private developer bears the traffic and revenue risk.
II. In the Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) model, the government fully funds the project.
III. The Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) requires the private developer to fund 100% of the

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58. A core operational benefit of commissioning Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs) for the general public is:
(A) The immediate deployment of ultra-high-speed bullet trains exclusively on dedicated DFC rail corridors
(B) The complete waiver and structural elimination of toll taxes across all parallel national expressways
(C) The permanent reclassification and conversion of all current freight rolling stock into passenger coaches
(D) The shifting of heavy freight off existing tracks to improve passenger train frequency and punctuality

59. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Inland water transport accounts for a very marginal share of total freight movement in India compared to road and rail.
Reason (R): The majority of peninsular rivers in India are seasonal and experience heavily fluctuating water levels, making year-round navigation difficult.
In light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) (A) is true but (R) is false
(D) (A) is false but (R) is true

60. What is the approximate total length of roads targeted for development under Phase-I of the Bharatmala Pariyojana?
(A) 10,000 km
(B) 24,800 km
(C) 34,800 km
(D) 55,000 km

61. The Sagarmala project emphasizes the modernization of major ports. Which of the following is classified as a Minor Port rather than a Major Port under the central government's jurisdiction?
(A) Deendayal Port (Kandla)
(B) Mundra Port
(C) Visakhapatnam Port
(D) Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (Kolkata)

62. Under the Bharatmala Pariyojana, the primary purpose of developing 'Economic Corridors' is to:
(A) Optimize freight movement efficiency along key trade and production routes
(B) Provide all-weather connectivity linking every village with a population over 500 directly to district hubs
(C) Construct specialized heavy-duty highway networks reserved exclusively for seasonal agricultural transport
(D) Systematically decommission and replace the existing conventional railway network with road expressways

63. Identify the incorrectly matched pair regarding infrastructure projects and their nodal implementing ministries:
(A) Bharatmala Pariyojana — Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
(B) Sagarmala Project — Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
(C) PMGSY — Ministry of Panchayati Raj
(D) UDAN Scheme — Ministry of Civil Aviation

64. Consider the following statements regarding the Jaipur Metro:
I. It is India's sixth operational metro rail system.
II. It features a unique double-decked elevated road and metro track corridor (Ajmer Road).
III. The entire network currently operates completely underground.
Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?
(A) I only
(B) II only
(C) III only
(D) I and II only

65. Under the standard funding pattern of the UDAN scheme for general states like Rajasthan, the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) is shared between the Centre and the State in what ratio?
(A) 50:50
(B) 60:40
(C) 80:20
(D) 90:10

66. The Airports Authority of India (AAI), which manages civil aviation infrastructure in the country, was established as a statutory body in which year?
(A) 1947
(B) 1985
(C) 1995

NODIA

49. Consider the following statements about the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY):
I. It is administered by the Ministry of Rural Development.
II. The scheme strictly covers the repair and maintenance of existing National Highways.
III. The fund sharing pattern for PMGSY implementation in Rajasthan is generally 60:40 between the Centre and the State.
IV. It utilizes the core network approach for planning rural roads.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, III, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

50. The Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation (RSRTC) was established in which year under the Road Transport Act, 1950?
(A) 1956
(B) 1964
(C) 1972
(D) 1984

51. In the constitutional and administrative framework of India, the responsibility for the development and maintenance of State Highways generally lies with:
(A) The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways operating at the central level
(B) The autonomous National Highways Authority of India under central jurisdiction
(C) The local District Panchayats and rural local self-government institutions
(D) The respective State Government's Public Works Department (PWD)

52. The 'Mega Highways Project' in Rajasthan was successfully implemented to convert major state arteries into dual-lane, toll-based roads. Which entity was the primary nodal agency for this?
(A) RIDCOR
(B) RSRTC
(C) NHAI
(D) RUDF

53. The FASTag system, mandatorily implemented on Indian toll plazas to ensure seamless transport, operates using which of the following technologies?
(A) Global Positioning System satellite tracking
(B) Near Field Communication contactless technology
(C) Radio Frequency Identification (RFID)
(D) Bluetooth Low Energy short-range wireless

54. Match List I with List II.
List I: Railway Zones
P. West Central Railway
Q. South Western Railway
R. East Coast Railway
S. North Western Railway
List II: Headquarters
1. Hubballi
2. Bhubaneswar
3. Jaipur
4. Jabalpur
(A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2

55. The Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) is predominantly funded by which of the following international financial institutions?
(A) Asian Development Bank (ADB)
(B) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
(C) New Development Bank (NDB)
(D) World Bank

56. The Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC), which heavily benefits Rajasthan, receives its primary external funding from which agency?
(A) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank Group)
(B) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
(C) International Monetary Fund Financial Assistance Framework (IMF)
(D) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank multilateral funding arm (AIIB)

57. The Western Dedicated Freight Corridor connects which two primary terminal nodes?
(A) Ludhiana inland terminal and Dankuni eastern port node
(B) Delhi northern junction and Chennai southern maritime hub
(C) Dadri and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT)
(D) Ahmedabad industrial center and Mumbai coastal terminal

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project upfront.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

40. Under the National Logistics Policy (NLP), the Government of India aims to reduce the logistics cost as a percentage of GDP to what level by 2030?

(A) Between 2% and 3% of GDP
(B) Single digits (approx. 8-9%)
(C) Between 15% and 16% of GDP
(D) Exactly zero percent of GDP

41. A key digital initiative under the National Logistics Policy is ULIP. What does ULIP stand for?

(A) Universal Logistics Information Portal
(B) United Land and Inland Ports
(C) Unified Logistics Interface Platform
(D) Uninterrupted Logistics Intermodal Pathway

42. Over the last few decades, the share of Indian Railways in the total freight traffic of the country has experienced which of the following trends?

(A) It has consistently and dramatically increased, dominating over domestic road transport
(B) It has remained strictly unchanged and constant across all major sectors since 1990
(C) It has completely collapsed, shrinking to under five percent of total national freight
(D) It has steadily declined over time, losing freight market share to road transport

43. A business based in Jaipur needs to export highly perishable agricultural goods to European markets within 24 hours. Which combination of multi-modal transport is the most appropriate applied choice?

(A) Refrigerated truck to Delhi International Airport, then air cargo
(B) Refrigerated truck from Jaipur to Mumbai port, then maritime shipping
(C) Dedicated Freight Corridor train to Kandla, then coastal shipping
(D) Inland waterways to Kolkata, then air cargo

44. Arrange the following ropeways of Rajasthan in the chronological order of their establishment (earliest to most recent):

1. Sundha Mata Ropeway, Jalore
2. Mansapurna Karni Mata Ropeway, Udaipur
3. Savitri Mata Ropeway, Pushkar
4. Samod Hanumanji Ropeway, Jaipur

Select the correct sequence:

(A) 1, 2, 3, 4
(B) 2, 1, 3, 4
(C) 1, 3, 2, 4
(D) 4, 3, 2, 1

45. Which of the following is currently the longest National Highway in India, running from Srinagar in the North to Kanyakumari in the South?

(A) NH 27
(B) NH 44
(C) NH 48
(D) NH 52

46. Under the old numbering system, National Highway 15 (NH 15) was strategically significant for Rajasthan because it:

(A) Ran parallel to the Indo-Pak border across the Thar desert
(B) Served as the primary industrial corridor linking Jaipur directly to the Mumbai port facilities
(C) Functioned as the sole high-altitude highway traversing all strategic Aravalli mountain passes
(D) Interconnected all major urban lake systems and heritage tourist circuits within Rajasthan

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47. Which of the following statements regarding the Golden Quadrilateral project is incorrect?

(A) It connects the four major metropolitan cities: Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata
(B) It is managed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)
(C) The total length of the Golden Quadrilateral network is exactly 12,500 km
(D) A significant section of it passes through the state of Rajasthan

48. Which statutory body is primarily responsible for the development, maintenance, and management of National Highways in India?

(A) Border Roads Organisation (BRO)
(B) Central Public Works Department (CPWD)
(C) National Transport Development Council (NTDC)
(D) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)

(D) 2005

67. Which of the following is NOT an example of a newly developed 'Greenfield' airport in India?
(A) Mopa Airport (Manohar International), Goa
(B) Sindhudurg Airport, Maharashtra
(C) Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar
(D) Jaipur International Airport, Rajasthan

68. The 'Open Sky Policy' in the context of India's civil aviation refers to:
(A) Bilateral agreements permitting unlimited flights between signatory nations
(B) Granting unrestricted access for international carriers to fly domestic routes across major Indian cities
(C) Removing all air traffic control guidelines and altitude restrictions for commercial cargo flights
(D) Waiving statutory passenger seating limits exclusively on military transport and defense aircraft

69. Select the correct chronological sequence in which the following Indian cities operationalized their first Metro rail lines (earliest to latest):
(A) Delhi, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Jaipur
(B) Kolkata, Delhi, Bengaluru, Jaipur
(C) Kolkata, Bengaluru, Delhi, Jaipur
(D) Delhi, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Jaipur

70. Among India's major sea ports, which one is known as the deepest landlocked and protected port?
(A) Visakhapatnam Port
(B) Chennai Port, Tamil Nadu
(C) Mumbai Port, Maharashtra
(D) Tuticorin Port, Tamil Nadu

71. Which of the following is the only major riverine port in India?
(A) Paradip Port Trust
(B) Mormugao Port Authority
(C) Cochin Port Authority
(D) Haldia/Kolkata Port

72. Which among the following is recognized as the longest crude oil pipeline currently operating in India?
(A) Naharkatiya-Barauni Pipeline
(B) Mundra-Panipat Pipeline
(C) Salaya-Mathura Pipeline
(D) Mumbai High-Uran Pipeline

73. Find the odd one out among the following based on their status as Major Ports regulated by the Major Port Trusts Act / Major Port Authorities Act:
(A) Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNPT)
(B) Kamarajar Port (Ennore)
(C) Pipavav Port
(D) New Mangalore Port

74. Consider the following statements about the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan:
I. It aims to break departmental silos and bring multi-modal connectivity.
II. It incorporates the infrastructure schemes of various ministries, including Bharatmala and Sagarmala.
III. It is driven by 7 engines of growth, including Roads, Railways, and Airports.
IV. It exclusively focuses on rural unpaved roads and completely excludes urban transport.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

75. In the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) Toll model of public-private partnerships in highways, who assumes the risk of lower-than-expected toll revenue?
(A) The Private Concessionaire
(B) The lending banks
(C) The State Government
(D) The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)

76. In the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) used for highway development in India, what percentage of the project cost is paid by the government during the construction period?
(A) 20%
(B) 40%
(C) 60%
(D) 100%

77. The PM Gati Shakti initiative identifies several key 'engines' to drive logistical efficiency. How many such engines are formally identified under this master plan?
(A) 4
(B) 5
(C) 7
(D) 9

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18. (B) Crude Oil
The Barmer-Salaya pipeline is constructed specifically to transport crude oil extracted from Rajasthan's oil fields in the Mangala region of Barmer to coastal terminal facilities in Salaya, Gujarat. Featuring heated pipeline technology to maintain fluid flow for waxy crude, this dedicated line serves as a crucial energy transport corridor supporting oil refining infrastructure on India's western coastline.

19. (A) Kandla, Mumbai, Mangaluru, Kochi
Along the western coast of India, major seaports follow a precise geographical distribution from north to south. Deendayal Port at Kandla in Gujarat is northernmost, followed by Mumbai Port in Maharashtra. Moving further south along the coastline leads to New Mangalore Port in Karnataka, and finally Cochin Port in Kerala, forming the standard north-to-south sequence of western ports.

20. (A) To promote port-led development and reduce overall logistics costs in the country
The Sagarmala Project is a flagship strategic initiative aimed at promoting port-led direct economic development across India's extensive coastline. It focuses on modernizing existing port infrastructure, enhancing port connectivity through road and rail links, driving coastal community development, and encouraging port-linked industrialization to significantly lower logistics costs and improve export competitiveness across global and domestic markets.

21. (C) Mansarovar to Chandpole
Phase 1A of the Jaipur Metro was the first operational urban rail corridor in Rajasthan, inaugurated for public commercial operations in June 2015. This initial stretch spanned a nine-kilometer commercial transit alignment connecting Mansarovar in the southwest to Chandpole near the historic walled city, providing swift mass rapid transportation for daily urban commuters across the state capital.

22. (A) Jodhpur
While major Indian cities like Lucknow, Kanpur, and Kochi have fully operational Metro rail systems catering to urban public transit needs, Jodhpur currently lacks an operational Metro rail system. Mass urban rapid transit in Jodhpur is primarily serviced by city bus networks and auto-rickshaws, with high-capacity rail transit plans remaining confined to initial exploratory and feasibility studies.

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23. (D) Standard Gauge
Standard Gauge, measuring 1435 millimeters between rails, is the predominant track width used across modern Metro rail networks in India, including the Jaipur Metro. This track dimension allows transit authorities to procure globally standardized rolling stock, utilize advanced signaling integration, optimize sharp curve navigation in densely populated urban landscapes, and lower long-term maintenance overhead costs.

24. (C) I, II, and IV only
The Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail corridor is India's inaugural bullet train project, incorporating Japanese Shinkansen technology with a designated operational speed of 320 km/h. Funding is predominantly secured via a soft loan from the Japan International Cooperation Agency rather than the World Bank, making the third statement factually inaccurate while confirming the remaining statements as correct.

25. (C) Roadways
Roadways dominate the overall modal split of freight transport in India, commanding over sixty percent of total freight movement measured in ton-kilometers. The flexibility of road networks to offer door-to-door connectivity, handle diverse cargo sizes, and reach remote rural areas without specialized terminal transshipment makes road transport the primary choice for commercial freight movement across the country.

26. (B) 2000
The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana was launched on December 25, 2000, as a fully funded central initiative. Its primary objective is to deliver all-weather road connectivity to eligible unconnected rural habitations across the nation. Over the decades, the program has systematically expanded rural infrastructure, fostering social integration, market access, and regional economic development.

27. (B) 500 persons
Under the initial guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, unconnected habitations in plain regions required a minimum population threshold of 500 persons based on the 2001 census to qualify for all-weather road links.

86. Rajasthan is famous for its luxury tourist trains that offer heritage tours. Which of the following luxury trains does NOT predominantly operate within or focus on Rajasthan?
(A) Deccan Odyssey
(B) Palace on Wheels
(C) Royal Rajasthan on Wheels
(D) Maharajas' Express

87. Consider the following statements regarding the Border Roads Organisation (BRO):
I. It functions under the Ministry of Defence.
II. It develops road networks primarily in India's border areas.
III. It also undertakes road construction projects in friendly neighboring countries like Bhutan and Afghanistan.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

88. In the context of multimodal logistics in India, what does a 'RO-RO' (Roll-on/Roll-off) service typically signify?
(A) The continuous commissioning and rollout of major expressway construction initiatives by NHAI
(B) Transporting loaded commercial trucks on flatbed rail wagons directly to destinations
(C) Seamless passenger transit transfers between urban metro rail systems and municipal bus routes
(D) Maritime cargo vessels that load containerized freight using specialized overhead gantry cranes

89. Arrange the following historic 20-Year Road Development Plans of India in the correct chronological sequence of their initiation:
1. Bombay Plan
2. Lucknow Plan
3. Nagpur Plan
Select the correct order:
(A) 3, 1, 2
(B) 1, 3, 2
(C) 3, 2, 1
(D) 2, 1, 3

90. Consider the following statements regarding the National Highways Development Project (NHDP):
I. The Golden Quadrilateral was implemented under Phase I of the NHDP.
II. The North-South and East-West Corridors were implemented under Phase II of the NHDP.
III. The North-South Corridor connects Srinagar to Kanyakumari.
IV. The East-West Corridor connects Porbandar to Silchar.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I, III, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

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ANSWERS

1. (C) NH 48
National Highway 48 is a major highway in India that connects Delhi and Mumbai. It forms an integral segment of the Golden Quadrilateral project. Passing extensively through Rajasthan, this route facilitates critical economic trade, interstate freight transport, and seamless connectivity between northern and western India while traversing key commercial hubs across multiple states.

2. (B) To implement the Mega Highways Project in the state
The Road Infrastructure Development Company of Rajasthan was incorporated as a joint venture to execute the Mega Highways Project across the state. It plays a pivotal role in upgrading major state road corridors into high-quality dual-lane highways. This organizational structure enhances regional connectivity, improves road infrastructure efficiency, and leverages public-private partnerships for long-term state transport development.

3. (A) North-South alignment
Under the modern rationalized numbering system for National Highways in India, all even-numbered highways represent a North-South geographical orientation. These routes increase in numerical value from east to west across the country. Conversely, odd-numbered highways denote an East-West orientation, increasing from north to south, which systematically simplifies highway identification and navigation throughout the national road network.

4. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Major Indian sea ports are situated in specific coastal states to support maritime commerce. Kandla Port is located on the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat. Mormugao Port serves as a major port in Goa. Paradip Port functions along the coast of Odisha, while Ennore Port operates within Tamil Nadu, facilitating nationwide maritime logistics and international trade operations.

5. (C) Jaipur
The administrative headquarters of the North Western Railway zone is situated in Jaipur. Established to oversee railway operations across the region, this zone encompasses divisions including Jaipur, Ajmer, Jodhpur, and Bikaner. This centralized structure manages passenger services, freight transport, and infrastructural maintenance, covering the vast majority of the railway network present throughout Rajasthan.

6. (C) 39%
Approximately thirty-nine percent of the total alignment of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor passes through Rajasthan. This substantial coverage makes the state a vital strategic hub for industrial corridors, logistics hubs, and freight transit. The corridor dramatically accelerates freight movement between northern inland nodes and major western seaports, promoting rapid economic and industrial development within Rajasthan.

7. (D) South Central Railway
Railway administration in Rajasthan is distributed among the North Western Railway, West Central Railway, and Western Railway zones. The South Central Railway zone operates primarily in southern Indian states such as Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Maharashtra, possessing no territorial jurisdiction or railway line network in Rajasthan, which remains managed entirely by northern and western zonal headquarters.

8. (B) Coal
Coal represents the highest percentage share of total revenue-earning freight traffic carried by Indian Railways. It is indispensable for powering thermal power plants and fueling heavy industrial production nationwide. Bulk transportation of coal forms the backline of freight revenue for the railway network, significantly outstripping other bulk commodities like iron ore, cement, and foodgrains in volume.

9. (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
The construction of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor provides a dedicated rail freight backbone across Rajasthan, dramatically accelerating transit times for goods. By enabling

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planned development of integrated logistics parks, feeder routes, and industrial nodes along its alignment, the corridor directly drives state industrialization. The enabling infrastructure thus provides the exact mechanism for economic expansion.

10. (D) Kishangarh Airport, Ajmer
Kishangarh Airport, located in the Ajmer district, was the inaugural airport in Rajasthan to start commercial flight operations under the central government's UDAN regional connectivity scheme. Designed to make air travel affordable and accessible to smaller urban centers, its opening enhanced connectivity to important pilgrimage destinations like Ajmer Sharif Dargah and Pushkar, along with local marble trade centers.

11. (A) Airfares are completely market-driven with no price caps on any seats
The UDAN scheme imposes mandatory airfare caps on a designated proportion of seats on participating regional flights to keep air travel affordable for the public. To compensate participating airlines for capped fares, the government provides financial subsidies through Viability Gap Funding funded jointly by central and state authorities, ensuring sustainable regional air connectivity across unserved and underserved airfields.

12. (A) One
Jaipur International Airport currently serves as the sole fully operational international airport in the state of Rajasthan. Managed to accommodate both domestic and overseas commercial flights, it links the state directly to international destinations. Other facilities across the state operate predominantly as domestic civil enclaves or regional airports handling domestic air passenger services under regulatory aviation frameworks.

13. (B) To provide grant funding for economically viable but financially unviable PPP projects
Viability Gap Funding is a financial mechanism designed to bridge the gap in public-private partnership infrastructure projects that are economically essential and desirable but lack commercial profitability for private investors. By offering upfront capital grant assistance, the government improves project financial viability, attracting private investment into major infrastructure networks like highways, urban transport, and regional aviation facilities.

14. (B) I and III only
The Inland Waterways Authority of India was constituted as a statutory body in October 1986 to manage and develop inland water transport infrastructure. National Waterway 2 covers the Brahmaputra River stretching from Sadiya to Dhubri in Assam. National Waterway 1 is situated on the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system, running between Prayagraj and Haldia, making the second statement inaccurate.

15. (C) Kota and Baran
The Hazira-Vijaipur-Jagdishpur gas pipeline was constructed as India's premier cross-state natural gas pipeline transmission network. Transversing through western and central states, its trunk alignment enters south-eastern Rajasthan through Kota and Baran districts. This vital energy conduit supplies natural gas to key industrial units, power generation stations, domestic distribution networks, and fertilizer production facilities across the administrative region.

16. (D) It provides a safe, continuous, and economical mode of bulk transport
Pipeline transport of Liquefied Petroleum Gas provides significant logistical advantages for long-distance bulk distribution. Pipelines ensure an uninterrupted, continuous supply, operate independently of surface traffic congestion, and drastically minimize transportation accidents and loss during transit. Furthermore, underground pipeline networks reduce long-term operational costs and environmental emissions compared to heavy commercial tanker fleets operating on highways.

17. (C) Udaipur
The Amritsar-Jamnagar Economic Corridor is designed to pass through northwestern and western Rajasthan, traversing districts including Sri Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Barmer, and Jalore. Udaipur lies in southern Rajasthan along a separate transportation alignment and is not part of this specific expressway layout, which is engineered to link major northern agricultural centers to western coastal seaports.

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78. Which of the following is the most direct benefit of establishing Multi-Modal Logistics Parks (MMLPs) in states like Rajasthan?
(A) Seamless freight transfer across transport modes to lower handling costs
(B) Total elimination of long-haul heavy commercial trucking operations on all state expressways
(C) Provision of completely subsidized long-term storage facilities for agricultural commodities
(D) Generation of off-grid renewable power to supply the entire state passenger railway grid

79. Match List I with List II.
List I: National Waterways
P. NW-1
Q. NW-2
R. NW-3
S. NW-4
List II: Rivers / Canal Systems
1. Brahmaputra River
2. West Coast Canal
3. Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River
4. Krishna-Godavari Rivers
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

80. The primary mandate of the Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation (RSRTC) is to:
(A) Oversee the civil engineering construction and maintenance of state expressways
(B) Enforce motor vehicle traffic regulations and collect penalties across all districts
(C) Issue driver licenses, conduct fitness tests, and register private motor vehicles
(D) Provide affordable, reliable, and efficient passenger road transport services

81. What is the primary advantage of the 'BH' (Bharat) series vehicle registration introduced by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways?
(A) It permanently waives toll tax liabilities across all national expressways in India
(B) It mandates substantial tax rebates exclusively for personal electric and hybrid vehicles
(C) It removes re-registration requirements when vehicle owners relocate across states
(D) It offers complete exemption from mandatory periodic pollution testing and certification

82. The United Nations General Assembly has declared the 'Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021–2030' with a target to reduce road traffic deaths and injuries by at least:
(A) 25%
(B) 50%
(C) 75%
(D) 100%

83. Which of the following administrative interventions is statistically the most effective in reducing fatalities caused by road traffic accidents on Indian national highways?
(A) Mandatory expansion of all national arterial highways to a minimum of eight lanes
(B) Construction of toll collection plazas at ten-kilometer intervals to reduce speeds
(C) Complete prohibition on commercial freight transport movement during nighttime hours
(D) Strict enforcement of speed limits, helmet rules, and seatbelt compliance

84. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Roads constructed under the PMGSY are officially categorized and maintained as National Highways.
Reason (R): PMGSY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme introduced to provide all-weather road connectivity to unconnected rural habitations.
In light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) (A) is true but (R) is false
(D) (A) is false but (R) is true

85. The 'Vande Bharat Express' (initially known as Train 18), which operates several routes including in Rajasthan, represents a significant technological shift for Indian Railways because:
(A) It represents the country's first fully imported magnetic levitation passenger service
(B) It is custom-built to operate exclusively along narrow-gauge mountain heritage corridors
(C) It is a self-propelled, semi-high-speed train set requiring no separate locomotive
(D) It functions primarily as a high-capacity dedicated double-stack container freight train

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For hill states, desert regions, and tribal areas, this population eligibility criterion was reduced to 250 persons to improve remote access.

28. (B) Village Footpaths
India's standard classified highway and road network comprises National Highways, State Highways, Major District Roads, Rural Roads, and Urban Arterials built to engineered vehicular standards. Village footpaths do not constitute categorized public road infrastructure, lacking engineered pavement design, vehicular capacity, or formal administrative highway classification within official road development planning frameworks across Indian transport sectors.

29. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Major Indian airports are officially named in honor of prominent leaders and historical figures. Rajiv Gandhi International Airport operates in Hyderabad, Telangana. Veer Savarkar International Airport serves Port Blair in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport is located in Nagpur, Maharashtra, and Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport serves Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

30. (A) Ministry of Defence
The Border Roads Organisation operates directly under the executive and administrative control of the Ministry of Defence. Established in 1960 to support national security requirements, BRO constructs and maintains vital road infrastructure along India's international borders and strategically sensitive hill regions, facilitating military mobility, regional logistics, and integrated socio-economic development across border territories.

31. (C) Rajasthan
Project Chetak is a specialized project executed by the Border Roads Organisation, primarily responsible for building and maintaining strategic road networks across Rajasthan. By developing durable highways in desert terrains and border regions, Project Chetak ensures reliable mobility for armed forces along the western border while improving road access for local civil populations in remote frontier districts.

32. (D) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
The Logistics Ease Across Different States index is an annual benchmarking assessment published by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Designed to evaluate logistics performance across Indian states and union territories, LEADS pinpoints infrastructure bottlenecks, measures service effectiveness, promotes healthy competitive federalism, and guides targeted state-level policy interventions to streamline supply chain management nationwide.

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33. (C) To reduce national logistics costs in India to match global benchmark levels
The primary mandate of the National Logistics Policy launched in 2022 is to lower logistics costs in India from around fourteen percent of GDP to global benchmarks of eight to nine percent. By fostering seamless multimodal transport networks, digitizing supply chain processes, and improving warehousing efficiency, the policy enhances overall trade competitiveness for Indian businesses.

34. (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
In India, road transport carries a larger volume of freight and passenger movement than railways. This dominance is directly explained by the ability of roads to offer flexible routing, last-mile reach, and door-to-door delivery. Rail infrastructure operates along fixed routes, making road transport inherently more suitable and versatile for short and medium-distance origin-to-destination movements.

35. (D) Sundha Mata Ropeway, Jalore
The Sundha Mata Ropeway in Jalore district was inaugurated in 2006 as the first passenger ropeway in Rajasthan. Built to convey devotees and tourists up the steep hill terrain to the revered Sundha Mata temple, it established cable-car transportation in the state, serving as a model for subsequent aerial ropeway projects developed across major hilly religious destinations.

36. (A) National Ropeways
Parvatmala Pariyojana is the National Ropeways Development Programme launched by the central government to build cable cars and ropeway systems across ecologically sensitive and hilly regions. By creating alternative aerial cable transport, the initiative aims to enhance last-mile connectivity, boost mountain tourism, and ease traffic congestion in congested urban areas where traditional road construction proves environmentally challenging.

CHAPTER 10
Trade of India

1. Which of the following best describes the historical trend of India's balance of trade since independence?
(A) Consistent trade surplus
(B) Persistent trade deficit every single year
(C) Occasional trade surplus but mostly trade deficit
(D) Equal imports and exports leading to balanced trade

2. Consider the following statements regarding India's export commodities:
I. Engineering goods consistently account for the largest share of India's total merchandise exports.
II. Refined petroleum products are among the top five export commodities of India.
III. Rajasthan contributes primarily to the export of heavy machinery and crude oil.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

3. If global crude oil prices rise sharply, which of the following is the most direct immediate impact on India's macroeconomic indicators, given its import structure?
(A) Significant increase in total trade surplus
(B) Rapid appreciation of the Indian Rupee value
(C) Immediate decrease in domestic price inflation
(D) Widening of the Current Account Deficit

4. Arrange the following countries in descending order based on their share in India's total merchandise exports:
1. United States of America
2. United Arab Emirates
3. China
4. United Kingdom
(A) 1, 2, 3, 4
(B) 1, 3, 2, 4
(C) 2, 1, 3, 4
(D) 3, 1, 2, 4

5. The Balance of Trade (BoT) of a country is strictly defined as the difference between:
(A) Total inward and outward remittance flows of foreign currency reserves
(B) Total commercial value of exported services and imported service trade
(C) Total value of merchandise exports and merchandise imports
(D) Combined market value of foreign exports and imports of goods and services

6. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): A country can have a deficit in its Balance of Trade but still have a surplus in its Current Account.
Reason (R): The Current Account includes net income and net current transfers, alongside the trade in goods and services.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

7. The Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023 of India shifts the approach of export promotion from:
(A) Direct cash subsidies to statutory tax exemptions
(B) Quantitative quotas to domestic tariff barriers
(C) Preferential bilateral trade to multilateral trade
(D) Incentives to duty remission and exemption

8. Which of the following statements regarding Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in India is correct?
(A) Units in SEZs are completely exempt from the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on domestic sales.
(B) SEZs are treated as foreign territory strictly

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Sri Ganganagar, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, and Barmer, it provided critical defence logistics capabilities and connected remote arid settlements across western India.

47. (C) The total length of the Golden Quadrilateral network is exactly 12,500 km
The Golden Quadrilateral is a major highway network connecting Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata, developed and managed by the National Highways Authority of India. Its total network length is approximately 5,846 kilometers rather than 12,500 kilometers, making statement C incorrect while affirming all other factual details regarding its routing and management.

48. (D) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)
The National Highways Authority of India is an autonomous statutory body constituted under the NHAI Act of 1988. Operating under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, NHAI is centrally tasked with the development, maintenance, land acquisition, toll collection, and executive management of the vast National Highway network across the country.

49. (B) I, III, and IV only
The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is administered by the Ministry of Rural Development, utilizes a core network approach, and shares funding in a 60:40 ratio between Centre and state in Rajasthan. Statement II is incorrect as PMGSY focuses exclusively on rural roads and habited connections, not the maintenance of National Highways.

50. (B) 1964
The Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation was formally established on October 1, 1964, under the provisions of the Road Transport Corporations Act, 1950. RSRTC was created to operate passenger road transport services, manage public bus fleets, expand intercity bus routes, and ensure comfortable, economical travel options for passenger movement within and beyond Rajasthan.

51. (D) The respective State Government's Public Works Department (PWD)
State Highways connect district headquarters, important cities, and major traffic nodes within a state. Under the constitutional framework, the financing, engineering construction, operational expansion, and ongoing routine maintenance of State Highways lie within the jurisdiction of the respective State Government, executed primarily through its Public Works Department rather than central road agencies.

52. (A) RIDCOR
The Road Infrastructure Development Company of Rajasthan was established as the key nodal implementing agency for the Mega Highways Project. Working through a public-private partnership framework, RIDCOR converted high-density state road corridors into durable toll roads, improving state connectivity, enabling heavy vehicular mobility, and establishing private infrastructure participation frameworks in Rajasthan.

53. (C) Radio Frequency Identification (RFID)
FASTag operates using passive Radio Frequency Identification technology attached to vehicle windshields. Readers installed at toll plaza lanes detect the FASTag tag wirelessly as the vehicle approaches, automatically deducting designated toll fees from a linked prepaid account. This technology enables seamless, electronic toll collection without requiring vehicles to stop, reducing plaza delays.

54. (A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
Railway zones across India are managed from designated administrative headquarters. West Central Railway is headquartered at Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh. South Western Railway operates its headquarters from Hubballi in Karnataka. East Coast Railway is centered in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, while North Western Railway maintains its primary zonal headquarters in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

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55. (D) World Bank
The Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor is a critical mega-rail project running from Ludhiana in Punjab to Dankuni in West Bengal. Development and construction of significant sections of the EDFC are funded predominantly through multilateral loan arrangements provided by the World Bank, facilitating capital investment in heavy rail infrastructure and logistics modernization in India.

37. (C) A person voluntarily rendering immediate emergency aid to a road crash victim without reward
Under the Motor Vehicles Amendment Act of 2019, a Good Samaritan is defined as an individual who voluntarily, in good faith and without expectation of reward, provides emergency medical or non-medical assistance to a road accident victim at the scene. Legal protections shield Good Samaritans from civil liability, harassment, or mandatory involvement in prolonged police investigations.

38. (A) Economy
Modern road safety policies worldwide are built around the four foundational pillars known as the 4 E's: Engineering, Education, Enforcement, and Emergency care. Economy is not included within this safety framework. These core pillars target road infrastructure design, public traffic awareness, legislative law enforcement, and rapid post-crash emergency medical response to minimize traffic fatalities effectively.

39. (A) I and II only
In the BOT-Toll model, private developers bear commercial traffic risks by relying on toll collection. Under EPC contracts, project funding is entirely provided by the government. The third statement is incorrect because under the Hybrid Annuity Model, the government funds forty percent of project costs, while the private developer finances sixty percent, making statements I and II true.

40. (B) Single digits (approx. 8-9%)
The National Logistics Policy targets reducing overall logistics costs in India to single-digit figures of approximately eight to nine percent of GDP by 2030. Achieving this target brings domestic logistics expenses in line with global standards, significantly enhancing the cost competitiveness of manufacturing, trade, and export sectors across international supply chain markets.

41. (C) Unified Logistics Interface Platform
The Unified Logistics Interface Platform was launched under the National Logistics Policy to create an integrated digital gateway for logistics operations. ULIP consolidates multi-sectoral data from various ministries and public agencies into a single platform, streamlining tracking, reducing documentation delays, enabling real-time supply visibility, and lowering transaction costs for logistics stakeholders throughout India.

42. (D) It has steadily declined over time, losing freight market share to road transport
Historically, Indian Railways moved over eighty percent of national freight, but its modal share has steadily declined to under thirty percent over recent decades. Rapid road expansion, enhanced last-mile road freight flexibility, and operational congestion on mixed rail tracks led bulk and non-bulk cargo shippers to progressively shift freight traffic toward road transport choices.

43. (A) Refrigerated truck to Delhi International Airport, then air cargo
For exporting perishable agricultural produce from Jaipur to Europe within twenty-four hours, speed and cold chain management are essential. Utilizing a temperature-controlled refrigerated truck to transfer goods to Delhi International Airport, followed by direct international air cargo flight transit, guarantees the rapid delivery and freshness required for high-value agricultural export markets.

44. (A) 1, 2, 3, 4
The establishment of major ropeways in Rajasthan follows a clear chronological sequence. The Sundha Mata Ropeway in Jalore was commissioned first in 2006. Mansapurna Karni Mata Ropeway in Udaipur opened next in 2008, followed by Savitri Mata Ropeway in Pushkar in 2016, and the Samod Hanumanji Ropeway in Jaipur in 2019.

45. (B) NH 44
National Highway 44 is currently the longest running National Highway in India. Spanning over 3,700 kilometers, it stretches continuously from Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir to Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu. The highway interconnects twelve Indian states and union territories, serving as the primary North-South arterial transport corridor across the entire country.

46. (A) Ran parallel to the Indo-Pak border across the Thar desert
Under the previous numbering system, National Highway 15 held crucial strategic and economic significance for Rajasthan. Running parallel along the western international border with Pakistan through major Thar desert districts like

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65. (C) 80:20
Under the financial structure of the UDAN regional connectivity scheme for general category states like Rajasthan, Viability Gap Funding is shared in an 80:20 ratio between the central government and the respective state government. For North Eastern states and Himalayan territories, the VGF sharing arrangement is modified to a 90:10 funding proportion.

66. (C) 1995
The Airports Authority of India was established on April 1, 1995, through an Act of Parliament that merged the former International Airports Authority of India and the National Airports Authority. Operating under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, AAI creates, upgrades, maintains, and manages civil aviation infrastructure, air traffic management, and airport operations nationwide.

67. (D) Jaipur International Airport, Rajasthan
Jaipur International Airport is an established brownfield airport that developed progressively over decades from a legacy civil airfield. In contrast, Mopa Airport in Goa, Sindhudurg Airport in Maharashtra, and Donyi Polo Airport in Itanagar were built entirely from scratch on previously undeveloped land, classifying them officially as newly developed greenfield airport infrastructure projects.

68. (A) Bilateral agreements permitting unlimited flights between signatory nations
In civil aviation, an Open Sky Policy refers to bilateral or multilateral air transport agreements that remove restrictions on passenger and cargo flight frequencies, seat capacities, and designated routes between signatory nations. By fostering liberalized access to international markets, it enhances global connectivity, encourages competitive international airfares, and stimulates foreign trade and tourist arrivals.

69. (B) Kolkata, Delhi, Bengaluru, Jaipur
Urban mass rapid rail transit in India began with Kolkata Metro opening in 1984 as the country's first metro line. Delhi Metro commenced operational services in 2002, followed by Namma Metro in Bengaluru in 2011. Jaipur Metro operationalized its Phase 1A in 2015, establishing the exact chronological order of operational dates across these four cities.

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70. (A) Visakhapatnam Port
Visakhapatnam Port, located on the coast of Andhra Pradesh, is recognized as India's deepest landlocked and protected natural harbor. Shielded from open sea conditions by natural rock formations including Dolphin's Nose hill, the port offers deep draft capabilities that accommodate large modern cargo vessels, playing a vital role in national bulk cargo handling and international trade.

71. (D) Haldia/Kolkata Port
Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, encompassing Kolkata and Haldia dock systems, is the only major riverine port in India. Situated along the Hooghly River, it operates as a river-based maritime port requiring regular maintenance dredging to clear silt and preserve vessel navigation channels, connecting interior eastern and northeastern hinterlands with global maritime shipping routes.

72. (B) Mundra-Panipat Pipeline
The Mundra-Panipat crude oil pipeline is one of the longest cross-country crude transport pipelines operating in India. Spanning over 1,190 kilometers from Mundra port in Gujarat to Indian Oil Corporation's Panipat refinery in Haryana, it transports imported crude oil across western and northern states, ensuring an efficient, bulk supply to meet regional petroleum refining demands.

73. (C) Pipavav Port
Major Ports like JNPT, Kamarajar Port, and New Mangalore Port fall under central regulatory administrative authority established by major port trust statutes. Pipavav Port in Gujarat is a private commercial port operated under a concession agreement with the Gujarat Maritime Board, categorizing it as a Non-Major Port and making it distinct from centrally governed major port authorities.

74. (A) I, II, and III only
PM Gati Shakti is a digital master plan targeting multi-modal connectivity across seven key infrastructure engines, integrating schemes like Bharatmala and Sagarmala. Statement IV is false because the platform comprehensively covers both urban and rural transport systems rather than excluding urban areas, confirming that only the first three statements accurately describe the master plan.

56. (B) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
Development of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor is predominantly financed through soft concessionary loans from the Japan International Cooperation Agency. This financial and technical collaboration between India and Japan supports double-stack container train operations, advanced signaling systems, and high-load track construction connecting interior industrial hinterlands directly to western deep-water seaports.

57. (C) Dadri and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT)
The Western Dedicated Freight Corridor originates at Dadri in Uttar Pradesh and terminates at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust near Mumbai in Maharashtra. Covering a distance of over 1,500 kilometers across northern and western states, this dedicated rail route creates a high-capacity freight artery linking inland container depots directly to major maritime shipping hubs.

58. (D) The shifting of heavy freight off existing tracks to improve passenger train frequency and punctuality
Constructing Dedicated Freight Corridors isolates heavy freight movement onto separate high-capacity tracks, clearing significant line capacity on existing conventional railway routes. Shifting freight trains off passenger corridors reduces congestion, enables higher average operational speeds, improves passenger train punctuality, and creates scheduling capacity for additional express passenger services across national rail transport networks.

59. (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
Inland water transport commands a very minor share of national freight movement in India. This low utilization is directly explained by the seasonal nature of peninsular rivers, which rely heavily on monsoonal rainfall. These rivers experience extreme water level fluctuations and reduced discharge during dry summer months, impeding year-round commercial navigation.

60. (C) 34,800 km
Phase-I of the Bharatmala Pariyojana targets the development of approximately 34,800 kilometers of road infrastructure across India. This extensive phase encompasses economic corridors, inter-corridors, feeder routes, national corridor efficiency improvements, border roads, coastal highways, and port connectivity expressways designed to bridge critical logistics gaps and streamline national freight movement nationwide.

61. (B) Mundra Port
In India, ports are divided into Major Ports and Minor Ports based on administrative jurisdiction. Major Ports like Deendayal, Visakhapatnam, and Syama Prasad Mookerjee Ports are governed by central maritime acts. Mundra Port in Gujarat is a commercial deep-water port administered by the Gujarat Maritime Board, classifying it administratively as a Non-Major or Minor Port.

62. (A) Optimize freight movement efficiency along key trade and production routes
Under the Bharatmala Pariyojana, Economic Corridors are strategically planned trunk road networks designed to optimize freight transport efficiency across major trade, industrial, and manufacturing clusters. By developing multi-lane access-controlled expressways along high-density commercial routes, Economic Corridors reduce travel duration, lower vehicle operating costs, and enhance overall logistics efficiency across the national economy.

63. (C) PMGSY — Ministry of Panchayati Raj
The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is implemented under the administrative purview of the Ministry of Rural Development, not the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The other listed projects match their respective governing ministries: Bharatmala under Road Transport and Highways, Sagarmala under Ports, Shipping and Waterways, and UDAN under the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

64. (C) III only
The Jaipur Metro is India's sixth operational metro network, featuring an elevated track structure along Ajmer Road where the railway track runs directly above an elevated roadway. Statement III is false because the network is not entirely underground; rather, it comprises elevated sections alongside a specific underground stretch connecting Chandpole to Badi Chaupar.

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Centrally Sponsored Scheme aimed specifically at constructing all-weather road links to unconnected rural habitations, confirming that Assertion A is false while Reason R is true.

85. (C) It is a self-propelled, semi-high-speed train set requiring no separate locomotive
The Vande Bharat Express represents an technological milestone for Indian Railways as the country's first indigenous semi-high-speed train set featuring distributed traction power. Lacking a separate locomotive, its self-propelled passenger coaches offer faster acceleration, reduced deceleration times, modern passenger amenities, and higher average operational speeds across electrified broad-gauge railway corridors.

86. (A) Deccan Odyssey
The Deccan Odyssey is a luxury tourist train operating primarily across Maharashtra and western India, showcasing coastal and cultural heritage destinations. In contrast, Palace on Wheels, Royal Rajasthan on Wheels, and Maharajas' Express focus extensively on Rajasthan, connecting historical forts, royal palaces, and desert wildlife sanctuaries across the state's popular tourism circuit.

87. (D) I, II, and III
The Border Roads Organisation operates under the Ministry of Defence, constructing crucial road networks across India's sensitive border areas. Beyond domestic borders, BRO undertakes infrastructure projects in friendly neighboring nations like Bhutan and Afghanistan, constructing highways and bridges that strengthen bilateral diplomatic ties, enhance regional trade, and promote strategic international cooperation.

88. (B) Transporting loaded commercial trucks on flatbed rail wagons directly to destinations
Roll-on/Roll-off services involve loading commercial freight trucks directly onto flatbed railway wagons for long-distance transport. By combining highway flexibility with high-capacity rail transit, RO-RO operations reduce diesel consumption, ease expressway traffic congestion, lower carbon emissions, and minimize transit wear and tear for heavy commercial transport operators across major industrial freight corridors.

89. (A) 3, 1, 2
Historical 20-Year Road Development Plans in India were introduced sequentially to structure long-term highway planning. The Nagpur Plan was initiated first in 1943. The Bombay Plan followed as the second 20-Year Plan covering 1961 to 1981, and the Lucknow Plan was launched third covering 1981 to 2001, establishing the correct sequence of initiation.

90. (D) I, II, III, and IV
Under the National Highways Development Project, Phase I executed the Golden Quadrilateral, while Phase II implemented the North-South and East-West Corridors. The North-South Corridor links Srinagar to Kanyakumari, and the East-West Corridor connects Porbandar in Gujarat to Silchar in Assam, confirming that all four listed statements are factually accurate and complete.

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75. (A) The Private Concessionaire
In the Build-Operate-Transfer Toll public-private partnership model, the private concessionaire finances, builds, and maintains the highway project. The concessionaire earns returns directly through collecting user toll fees over the concession period. Consequently, if traffic volume and toll earnings fall below initial financial projections, the private concessionaire absorbs the entirety of the resulting revenue risk.

76. (B) 40%
Under the Hybrid Annuity Model used in highway development, the government funds forty percent of the total project cost during the construction phase through milestone-linked installments. The remaining sixty percent is raised by the private developer, who recovers investment costs over an operational period via fixed annuity payments provided directly by the government authority.

77. (C) 7
The PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan identifies exactly seven foundational engines driving infrastructure and economic growth. These seven engines comprise Roads, Railways, Airports, Ports, Mass Transport, Waterways, and Logistics Infrastructure. Together, they form an integrated multi-modal platform aimed at eliminating departmental planning silos, optimizing transit routes, and lowering national logistics expenses.

78. (A) Seamless freight transfer across transport modes to lower handling costs
Multi-Modal Logistics Parks consolidate freight handling, intermodal transfers, mechanized warehousing, custom clearances, and value-added services in one centralized location. By enabling swift transfers between rail, road, and air networks, MMLPs streamline supply chains, reduce cargo damage, lower overall handling costs, and improve transit efficiency for commercial businesses and regional industries.

79. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
National Waterways are declared along key Indian river and canal systems. NW-1 spans the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system between Prayagraj and Haldia. NW-2 is designated on the Brahmaputra River from Sadiya to Dhubri. NW-3 comprises the West Coast Canal in Kerala, while NW-4 encompasses sections of the Krishna and Godavari rivers.

80. (D) Provide affordable, reliable, and efficient passenger road transport services
The primary mandate of the Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation is to operate passenger road transport services throughout the state and adjoining regions. RSRTC manages intercity bus services, maintains depot operations, and ensures affordable, safe, and efficient public mobility options for passengers, distinct from regulatory licensing bodies or road construction authorities.

81. (C) It removes re-registration requirements when vehicle owners relocate across states
The Bharat Series vehicle registration was introduced to simplify motor vehicle mobility across state boundaries. Vehicles registered under the BH series do not require re-registration or transfer of road tax when owners relocate to another Indian state, eliminating administrative hassles, saving re-registration expenses, and benefiting mobile employees working in defense, government, or private enterprises.

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82. (B) 50%
The United Nations General Assembly officially proclaimed the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021–2030 with an explicit target to reduce road traffic fatalities and serious injuries by at least fifty percent globally. Reaching this target requires signatory nations to implement safer road infrastructure design, strict traffic law enforcement, and rapid emergency response.

83. (D) Strict enforcement of speed limits, helmet rules, and seatbelt compliance
Statistical analysis of road safety demonstrates that strict regulatory enforcement of speed limits, mandatory helmet usage, and seatbelt compliance produces the most immediate reduction in fatal traffic accidents. Addressing driver behavior and compliance targeting key risk factors significantly mitigates impact severity and prevents severe casualties across national highway transportation corridors.

84. (D) (A) is false but (R) is true
Assertion A is false because roads built under the PMGSY are officially categorized as Rural Roads rather than National Highways. Reason R is factually correct because PMGSY is a

for the purpose of trade operations and duties.
(C) All SEZs in India are established and managed exclusively by the Central Government.
(D) SEZ units are not allowed to sell their products in the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) under any circumstances.

9. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Export Promotion Council/Board)
P. APEDA
Q. MPEDA
R. EEPC
S. FIEO
List II: (Associated Commodity/Sector)
1. Engineering Goods
2. Apex body of export promotion organizations
3. Agricultural and Processed Food
4. Marine Products
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

10. India's participation in the World Trade Organization (WTO) is guided by various agreements. Which of the following is NOT a WTO agreement?
(A) TRIPS (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights)
(B) TRIMS (Trade-Related Investment Measures)
(C) GATS (General Agreement on Trade in Services)
(D) NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement)

11. Which of the following options represents the correct chronological sequence of India signing the respective regional/comprehensive economic agreements?
(A) South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) - India-ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement - India-UAE CEPA
(B) India-ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement - South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) - India-UAE CEPA
(C) South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) - India-UAE CEPA - India-ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement
(D) India-UAE CEPA - South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) - India-ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement

12. In the context of domestic wholesale trade in agricultural commodities in Rajasthan, the implementation of e-NAM (National Agriculture Market) primarily aims to:
(A) Completely eliminate the existing Minimum Support Price (MSP) framework nationwide
(B) Create a unified market by electronically networking APMC mandis
(C) Prevent domestic agricultural farmers from selling outside local physical mandis
(D) Restrict large private corporate buyers from participating in wholesale agricultural trade

13. Which of the following pairs regarding the structure of India's retail trade is correctly matched?
(A) Unorganized Retail - Commercial operation of large national chain supermarkets and hypermarkets
(B) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) - Permitted up to 100% via automatic route in Single Brand Retail
(C) Organized Retail - Informal establishment of traditional neighborhood mom-and-pop kirana stores
(D) Multi-Brand Retail - Permitted up to 100% via automatic route across all commercial sectors without restrictions

14. Consider the following statements regarding the role of e-commerce in India's trade landscape:
I. The FDI policy of India allows 100% FDI under the automatic route in the marketplace model of e-commerce.
II. E-commerce entities operating under the inventory-based model are freely permitted to have 100% FDI.
III. E-commerce has significantly boosted the export of GI (Geographical Indication) products from Rajasthan, such as Blue Pottery and Bagru prints.
IV. The Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) is an initiative to democratize e-commerce and break monopolies.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I, II and IV
(B) I, III and IV
(C) II, III and IV
(D) I, II, III and IV

15. Identify the odd one out among the following major seaports of India based on their geographical location (coastal positioning):
(A) Deendayal Port (Kandla)

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(B) Jawaharlal Nehru Port (Nhava Sheva)
(C) Paradip Port
(D) New Mangalore Port

16. Given Rajasthan's landlocked geographical status, which of the following trade infrastructure components is most critical for facilitating its international merchandise trade?
(A) Specialized maritime Coastal Economic Zones (CEZs) along maritime borders
(B) Deep-water commercial seaports established within the state territorial boundaries
(C) Extensive inland National Waterways designated for riverine bulk cargo transport
(D) Inland Container Depots and Dedicated Freight Corridors

17. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) fundamentally aim to eliminate or reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers between member nations.
Statement II: India opted out of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) to protect its domestic manufacturing and agricultural sectors from a potential surge in cheap imports.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

18. Identify the INCORRECT statement regarding India's trade deficit:
(A) A trade deficit occurs when the value of imports exceeds the value of exports over a given period.
(B) A consistently widening merchandise trade deficit always leads to a Current Account Surplus.
(C) India's structural dependence on imported crude oil is a major contributor to its persistent trade deficit.
(D) Import of gold and electronics are significant factors contributing to the merchandise trade deficit.

19. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), which formulates and implements India's Foreign Trade Policy, operates as an attached office under the:
(A) Ministry of Finance
(B) Ministry of External Affairs
(C) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
(D) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

20. In recent financial years, which country has consistently ranked as India's largest source of merchandise imports?
(A) China
(B) United States
(C) Russia
(D) Saudi Arabia

21. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): A sharp depreciation of the Indian Rupee generally makes Indian exports more competitive in the global market.
Reason (R): Depreciation reduces the cost of imported raw materials used in export-oriented manufacturing.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

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22. What is the primary function of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC)?
(A) Provides credit insurance to exporters against payment risks
(B) Provides direct cash subsidies and financial grants to small-scale exporters
(C) Formulates and enforces quality standards for international agricultural exports
(D) Regulates and manages the total foreign exchange reserves of the central bank

23. Consider the following statements regarding India's trade relations with neighboring countries:
I. Bangladesh is India's largest trading partner in South Asia.
II. India maintains a trade deficit with Nepal due to high imports of manufactured goods from Nepal.
III. Border haats have been established along the India-Bangladesh border to promote local bilateral trade.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only

(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

24. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Global Trade Phenomenon)
P. Global recession in Western markets
Q. Disruption in Red Sea shipping routes
R. Hike in US Federal Reserve interest rates
S. Global boom in IT services
List II: (Likely Impact on Indian Trade)
1. Increase in India's software export revenues
2. Capital outflows and rupee depreciation
3. Increase in freight costs and delayed shipments
4. Decline in demand for Indian textile and diamond exports
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2

25. India is highly dependent on remittances sent by its diaspora. In the Balance of Payments (BoP) accounting, personal remittances received by Indians from abroad are recorded under:
(A) Capital Account as Foreign Direct Investment
(B) Capital Account as External Commercial Borrowings
(C) Current Account as Unilateral Transfers
(D) Current Account as Merchandise Trade

26. Which of the following statements correctly characterizes India's foreign trade structure in the post-liberalization (post-1991) era?
(A) The share of primary agricultural products in total exports has dramatically increased, overtaking manufactured goods.
(B) There has been a significant decline in the share of software and IT-enabled services in total exports.
(C) The volume of India's foreign trade as a percentage of its GDP has steadily declined.
(D) The composition of exports has shifted significantly towards manufactured goods and services.

27. Which specific sector among the following contributes the highest percentage to the total export value from Rajasthan?
(A) Engineering, textiles, and gems & jewellery
(B) Processed and frozen marine seafood products exported globally
(C) High-technology Information Technology hardware components
(D) Extracted unrefined raw crude oil and petroleum products

28. Consider the following statements regarding India's major import commodities:
I. Gold and silver constitute a significant portion of India's non-oil imports.
II. India is completely self-sufficient in edible oils and strictly bans their import.
III. Electronic goods form one of the fastest-growing segments in India's import basket.
IV. Coal, coke, and briquettes are major import items despite India having large domestic coal reserves.
Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II only
(B) II only
(C) III and IV only
(D) I, III and IV only

29. Arrange the following economic blocs/regions in ascending order of their share in India's total merchandise exports (lowest to highest):
1. CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States)
2. ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)
3. North America (USA & Canada)
(A) 1, 2, 3
(B) 3, 2, 1
(C) 2, 1, 3
(D) 1, 3, 2

30. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Balance of Trade (BoT) is a broader concept than the Current Account as it includes both goods and services.
Statement II: A country can offset its Balance of Trade deficit through a surplus in net invisibles (services, transfers, and income).
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

31. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Transaction)
P. Export of IT services
Q. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in an Indian startup
R. Repayment of principal on a foreign loan

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maintain zero structural impact on international trade volume or total value.

47. Match List I with List II:
List I: (Trade Finance/Insurance Term)
P. Commercial Risk
Q. Political Risk
R. Export Credit Insurance
S. Pre-shipment Finance
List II: (Description)
1. Loans provided by banks to exporters for manufacturing or packing goods before export
2. Risk arising from the buyer's insolvency or prolonged default
3. Protection against payment defaults by foreign buyers
4. Risk arising from war, sudden import restrictions, or foreign exchange curbs in the buyer's country

(A) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(B) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4

48. The 'Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project' aims to facilitate trade and connectivity between India and which neighboring country?
(A) Bangladesh
(B) Bhutan
(C) Nepal
(D) Myanmar

49. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The adoption of 'China Plus One' strategy by multinational companies has presented significant opportunities for India's export sector.
Reason (R): Global corporations are seeking to diversify their supply chains away from over-reliance on a single country to mitigate supply chain disruptions.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

50. In India's services export basket, which segment has historically maintained the dominant share, ensuring a consistent surplus in the services trade account?
(A) International Travel and Tourism Services
(B) Software and IT-enabled services
(C) Global Transport and Freight Cargo Services
(D) Commercial Financial and Insurance Services

51. Identify the INCORRECT statement regarding India's foreign trade policies prior to the 1991 economic reforms:
(A) The national trade regime was strictly characterized by high tariffs and quantitative import restrictions.
(B) Systematic import substitution served as the primary economic strategy to protect domestic market industries.
(C) The national export basket was heavily dominated by traditional commodities like tea, jute, and cotton textiles.
(D) FDI was actively encouraged and freely permitted up to 100% across sectors.

52. Consider the following statements regarding the export performance of India's agricultural sector:
I. Basmati rice and spices are among the major agricultural export commodities of India.
II. India is the largest exporter of wheat in the global market consistently for the last decade.
III. The APEDA acts as the apex body for promoting the export of scheduled agricultural products.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

53. A sudden reduction in the import duty on coking coal and ferronickel by the Government of India is most likely intended to directly benefit which of the following domestic industries?
(A) The commercial textile and garment sector
(B) The national pharmaceutical research sector
(C) Steel manufacturing industry
(D) The export gem and jewelry cutting sector

54. Which of the following European countries is traditionally India's largest trading partner within the European Union (EU) in terms of overall merchandise trade volume?
(A) Germany
(B) Republic of France

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39. Which of the following is NOT an objective of the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) promoted by the Government of India?
(A) To promote open networks for the exchange of goods and services over digital or electronic networks
(B) To integrate micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) into the digital commerce landscape
(C) To provide consumers with greater choices independently of specific e-commerce platforms
(D) To establish a complete government monopoly over all e-commerce operations in India

40. Identify the correct sequence of the following major Indian ports from North to South along the eastern coast:
(A) Haldia - Paradip - Visakhapatnam - Chennai
(B) Paradip - Haldia - Chennai - Visakhapatnam
(C) Haldia - Visakhapatnam - Paradip - Chennai
(D) Visakhapatnam - Haldia - Paradip - Chennai

41. To reduce logistics costs and improve cargo movement efficiency, the Government of India launched a major master plan for multi-modal connectivity known as:
(A) PM Kisan Sampada Yojana
(B) Make in India
(C) PM Gati Shakti
(D) Sagarmala Phase II strictly for aviation

42. If India signs a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with a major advanced economy that immediately removes import duties on foreign automobiles, what is the most likely immediate challenge for the Indian domestic market?
(A) An immediate, massive surge will occur in Indian automobile exports to that advanced economy.
(B) The domestic currency value will instantly appreciate by twenty percent against foreign reserve currencies.
(C) Retail price inflation across the primary agricultural and food sector will skyrocket dramatically.
(D) Domestic auto firms face heavy price competition, lowering market share.

43. Consider the following statements regarding India's merchandise trade deficit:
I. High domestic consumption of imported crude oil.
II. Significant import of gold for jewelry manufacturing and investment.
III. Robust growth in India's IT and software service exports.
IV. High dependency on imported active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and electronics.
Which of the above statements are structural causes contributing to India's merchandise trade deficit?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, II and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, III and IV only

44. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) issues the Importer-Exporter Code (IEC), which is mandatory for starting an import/export business in India.
Statement II: DGFT has the authority to regulate, restrict, or prohibit the import and export of certain goods in the interest of national security and environmental protection.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

45. Identify the odd one out among the following countries concerning India's bilateral merchandise trade balance (where India generally runs a trade deficit with three, but a surplus with one):
(A) People's Republic of China
(B) United States
(C) Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
(D) Republic of Iraq

46. Which of the following statements correctly describes the impact of the exchange rate on foreign trade?
(A) Rupee depreciation increases the landed cost of imports in India.
(B) An overvalued domestic exchange rate systematically encourages exports while discouraging foreign imports.
(C) Strategic currency devaluation is a monetary mechanism primarily utilized to boost a country's overall imports.
(D) Continuous exchange rate fluctuations

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foreign exchange currencies in bilateral international trade.

62. Which of the following is the most significant bottleneck in India's agricultural wholesale trade structure?
(A) Market fragmentation, high commission fees, and poor cold storage
(B) Structural over-reliance on highly advanced and expensive computerized sorting systems
(C) Excessive direct procurement of raw crops by foreign multinational corporations from farms
(D) A total statutory prohibition on private enterprise participation in wholesale produce trading

63. In India's retail classification, which format strictly refers to stores owned and operated by a single corporate entity selling multiple brands of products across various categories?
(A) Single-Brand Corporate Retail
(B) Traditional Kirana Unorganized Retail
(C) Multi-Brand Retail
(D) Direct Selling Network Marketing (MLM)

64. Which of the following statements accurately reflects the current regulatory framework for e-commerce in India?
(A) E-commerce platforms operating under the marketplace model are legally liable for the quality of goods sold by third-party sellers.
(B) Foreign-owned e-commerce entities are allowed to permanently offer steep predatory discounts out of their own funds.
(C) Inventory-based e-commerce models with FDI are free to manipulate search algorithms to favor their in-house brands.
(D) 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is permitted in the marketplace model of e-commerce under the automatic route.

65. Identify the port that does NOT belong to the category of 'Major Ports' governed directly by the Central Government under the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:
(A) Chennai Port
(B) Cochin Port
(C) Mundra Port
(D) Mormugao Port

66. Identify the INCORRECT statement regarding India's trade logistics and customs infrastructure:
(A) The national ICEGATE portal functions as the central electronic data interchange network for Indian Customs operations.
(B) The AEO program has slowed down customs clearance for exporters.
(C) Designated Inland Container Depots (ICDs) operate as functional dry ports that enable inland customs clearance.
(D) Specialized Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs) separate heavy freight movement from passenger railway traffic.

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67. The historic 'India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement' (CEPA), which came into force in 2022, notably aims to increase bilateral non-oil trade to what target value over five years?
(A) USD 10 Billion
(B) USD 50 Billion
(C) USD 500 Billion
(D) USD 100 Billion

68. A sustained high trade deficit generally places downward pressure on the value of the domestic currency. What is the standard central bank intervention to prevent excessive abrupt depreciation of the Indian Rupee in such scenarios?
(A) Selling dollars from foreign exchange reserves
(B) Unrestricted printing of additional domestic fiat currency notes
(C) Enacting an immediate, total prohibition on all foreign imports
(D) Slashing central bank interest rates down to zero percent

69. Which of the following tasks is NOT performed by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)?
(A) Administering the Niryat Bandhu Scheme for mentoring new exporters
(B) Issuing guidelines for the import of restricted items
(C) Directly collecting customs duties at all international seaports
(D) Formulating and announcing the Foreign Trade Policy

70. Which of the following pairs of 'Country - Principal Import to India' is incorrectly matched based on recent trade profiles?
(A) United States - Textiles and raw jute
(B) Switzerland - Unwrought Gold and Precious Metals
(C) Iraq - High-volume Crude Petroleum imports

(C) Italian Republic
(D) Kingdom of Spain

55. Consider the following statements about India's Balance of Trade (BoT):
I. BoT focuses only on the import and export of tangible goods.
II. A negative BoT indicates that a country's import of goods is higher than its export of goods.
III. India's BoT has historically been positive (surplus) for the majority of years since 1990.
IV. Trade in software services is excluded from the calculation of merchandise BoT.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III
(B) I, II and IV
(C) II, III and IV
(D) I, III and IV

56. In the context of the Balance of Payments, what does the term 'Foreign Exchange Reserves' primarily consist of?
(A) Physical gold reserves and short-term foreign exchange assets held by commercial banks across India
(B) Foreign currency assets, RBI gold, SDRs, and IMF Reserve Tranche Position
(C) Total sovereign external debt instruments accumulated by the Government of India from foreign lenders
(D) Cumulative monetary value of all merchandise exports completed by domestic Indian companies annually

57. The Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023 introduces several new concepts. Which of the following is NOT one of the core pillars of the FTP 2023?
(A) Shift from Incentives to Remission
(B) Promoting ease of doing business through technology
(C) Complete nationalization of all export operations
(D) Collaborative approach through Exporters, States, and Districts

58. Which of the following pairings related to India's SEZ framework is incorrectly matched?
(A) Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) - Area within India that is outside the Special Economic Zones
(B) Net Foreign Exchange (NFE) Earning - A mandatory requirement for SEZ units to achieve a positive balance over a specified period
(C) SEZ Act, 2005 - The central legislation providing the legal framework for SEZs in India
(D) Export Oriented Unit (EOU) - A scheme that is strictly restricted to operations only inside designated SEZ physical boundaries

59. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) in India are non-profit organizations supported by financial assistance from the Central Government.
Statement II: Membership in a relevant EPC and obtaining a Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) is mandatory for exporters to avail of benefits under the Foreign Trade Policy.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

60. What is the primary function of the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) under the World Trade Organization (WTO)?
(A) To provide financial loans to developing countries facing balance of payments crises
(B) To adjudicate trade disputes between member countries based on WTO agreements
(C) To strictly regulate the domestic currency exchange rates of member nations
(D) To set the global prices for crude oil and precious metals

61. If India signs an agreement with the ASEAN bloc that significantly lowers import tariffs on electronic goods originating from ASEAN nations, what is the 'Rules of Origin' clause primarily designed to prevent?
(A) Prevents member ASEAN nations from exporting primary agricultural produce to domestic Indian markets.
(B) Prevents non-members from routing goods via ASEAN for lower tariffs.
(C) Prevents domestic Indian manufacturers from expanding their export sales into competitive global markets.
(D) Strictly prevents the operational use of

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78. Which of the following is NOT typically classified as a 'capital goods' import for India?
(A) Crude sunflower oil and palm oil
(B) Heavy industrial machinery
(C) Machine tools and specialized engines
(D) Commercial aircraft and transport equipment

79. Over the past few years, which Middle Eastern nation has solidified its position as India's third-largest trading partner, aided significantly by a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement?
(A) Islamic Republic of Iran
(B) State of Qatar
(C) United Arab Emirates
(D) State of Kuwait

80. If India imposes high anti-dumping duties on cheap electronic goods imported from a specific country, what is the intended direct effect on India's Balance of Trade?
(A) Directly aims to significantly decrease domestic manufactured exports destined for that partner nation.
(B) Automatically guarantees a sustainable structural surplus in the current account balance regardless of external factors.
(C) Intends to intentionally expand the cumulative value of all incoming global imports.
(D) Curbs low-cost artificial imports to narrow the trade deficit.

81. Which of the following correctly describes a 'Current Account Deficit' (CAD)?
(A) When total statutory government fiscal expenditure exceeds total revenue receipts within a financial year.
(B) When aggregate national imports of goods, services, and transfers remain strictly less than total exports.
(C) When imports of goods, services, and net outgoing income exceed total exports.
(D) When a sovereign country successfully accumulates more foreign exchange reserves than total external debt.

82. The 'RoDTEP' scheme replaced the earlier MEIS scheme under India's Foreign Trade Policy. What does the 'RoDTEP' acronym stand for?
(A) Remission of Direct Taxes for Export Promotion
(B) Rebate of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products
(C) Refund of Domestic Tariffs on Export Pricing
(D) Regulation of Duties and Trade for Export Profit

83. In SEZ terminology, the area strictly dedicated to manufacturing, trading, or providing services, and where specific tax holidays apply, is functionally termed as the:
(A) Non-Processing Area
(B) Domestic Tariff Area
(C) Buffer Zone
(D) Processing Area

84. Why are Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) considered vital for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in India?
(A) They provide market intelligence, trade fair access, and compliance aid.
(B) They completely subsidize and bear all primary manufacturing costs for export products produced by MSMEs.
(C) They possess statutory legal authority to penalize international buyers who delay payments to Indian exporters.
(D) They directly issue mandatory domestic tax registrations required for selling products in local markets.

85. Under the WTO framework, if India grants 'Most Favored Nation' (MFN) status to another member country, it implies that:
(A) India must grant exclusive, zero-tariff market access strictly to merchandise originating from that nation.
(B) Sovereign trade rules exempt that designated trading partner from all domestic environmental and employment regulations.
(C) India must extend equal trade concessions to all WTO member countries.
(D) Mandatory regulations dictate that India must exclusively utilize that partner nation's currency for bilateral trade settling.

86. The 'South Asian Free Trade Area' (SAFTA) agreement was essentially created to boost regional trade among the members of which geopolitical organization?
(A) SAARC
(B) ASEAN
(C) BIMSTEC
(D) BRICS

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(D) Indonesia - Thermal Coal and Edible Palm Oil

71. In international trade, what does the term 'Real Effective Exchange Rate' (REER) measure?
(A) The fixed official exchange rate between two sovereign currencies established by multilateral agreements
(B) The total aggregate physical currency volume transacted across global foreign exchanges annually
(C) The unofficial market valuation of domestic exchange relative to external currencies
(D) The inflation-adjusted weighted average currency value against a trade basket

72. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: ECGC Ltd. is wholly owned by the Government of India and functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
Statement II: ECGC insurance covers strictly commercial risks like buyer insolvency, but explicitly excludes political risks such as war or civil disturbances in the buyer's country.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

73. India's trade relationship with Sri Lanka is governed by ISFTA. If Sri Lanka experiences a severe sovereign debt crisis and severe dollar shortage, what is the most immediate negative repercussion for Indian trade?
(A) An unprecedented, massive expansion in bilateral software services exports to Sri Lanka
(B) A sudden, sharp increase in foreign direct investment inflows originating from Sri Lanka
(C) Lower exports to Sri Lanka owing to dollar illiquidity and payment defaults
(D) Continuous market appreciation of the Sri Lankan Rupee relative to the Indian Rupee

74. What does the 'Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism' (CBAM) introduced by the European Union entail for Indian trade?
(A) Direct provision of substantial subsidies for carbon-intensive merchandise entering European Union markets
(B) A total statutory prohibition on importing manufactured commercial goods from developing non-EU nations
(C) Establishment of a duty-free trade corridor for zero-emission vehicles without standard customs clearance
(D) Taxes carbon-intensive imports like steel and aluminum, impacting exports

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75. Regarding India's services trade, which of the following statements is correct?
(A) Medical tourism, education, and consultancy are growing service exports.
(B) India operates as a net structural importer of global software applications and IT services.
(C) India has consistently recorded a deficit in its overall trade balance for services over the past decade.
(D) Personal remittances from overseas non-resident citizens are the chief cause of India's merchandise trade surplus.

76. In the context of the economic geography of India, the state of Rajasthan contributes significantly to the national export basket in which of the following categories?
(A) Heavy ocean shipbuilding and commercial marine seafood exports
(B) Dimensional stones, handicrafts, and agricultural products
(C) Advanced aerospace and commercial aviation equipment manufacturing
(D) Offshore marine crude oil extraction and deep-sea exploration

77. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: The 'Districts as Export Hubs' initiative aims to mobilize the potential of each district of India to achieve its potential as an export hub.
Statement II: Under this initiative, specific products with export potential have been identified for all districts in Rajasthan, such as Blue Pottery from Jaipur.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

S. Import of crude oil

List II: (Accounting Category in India's Balance of Payments)

1. Capital Account (Inflow)
2. Current Account (Trade in Goods)
3. Current Account (Trade in Services)
4. Capital Account (Outflow)

(A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

32. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of the 'Towns of Export Excellence' (TEE) initiative under India's Foreign Trade Policy?
(A) Grants complete income tax exemption to any designated town exporting merchandise worth over ₹100 crore
(B) Permanently transforms selected urban towns into Special Economic Zones with strict foreign ownership rules
(C) Strictly restricts domestic tariff area sales for all manufacturing units located within designated export towns
(D) Recognizes key producing towns for specialized export assistance

33. Which of the following is the premier multi-product Special Economic Zone (SEZ) developed in Rajasthan on a public-private partnership basis?
(A) Boranada Industrial SEZ, Jodhpur
(B) Sitapura Industrial SEZ, Jaipur
(C) Mahindra World City
(D) Neemrana Industrial Japanese Zone

34. The Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) plays a significant role in India's exports. The cutting and polishing of precious stones, heavily backed by GJEPC, is largely centered in which pair of cities?
(A) Ludhiana and Panipat
(B) Surat and Jaipur
(C) Coimbatore and Madurai
(D) Kanpur and Agra

35. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): India frequently invokes the 'Peace Clause' at the World Trade Organization (WTO).
Reason (R): The Peace Clause allows developing nations to exceed the WTO's subsidy limits for agricultural products procured for food security programs without facing immediate legal action.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

36. In the context of international trade agreements, what distinguishes a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) from a standard Free Trade Agreement (FTA)?
(A) CEPA covers services, investment, and cooperation beyond tariff cuts on goods.
(B) CEPA strictly covers physical merchandise goods while explicitly excluding services trade and investment.
(C) CEPA legally forbids member sovereign nations from engaging in bilateral trade with non-member third countries.
(D) CEPA operates purely as a military defense alliance without incorporating economic tariff reduction provisions.

37. Which of the following pairs regarding India's domestic agricultural market structure is incorrectly matched?
(A) APMC - Agricultural Produce Market Committee
(B) e-NAM - National online trading platform for agricultural commodities
(C) MSP - Maximum Selling Price legally mandated for private traders
(D) FCI - Primary agency for procurement of foodgrains at central level

38. Consider the following statements regarding the Retail structure in India:
I. The unorganized sector accounts for the overwhelming majority of retail trade in India.
II. Kirana stores and local street vendors are classified under organized retail.
III. The adoption of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has significantly digitized transactions in unorganized retail.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

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87. Identify the entity/platform that does NOT primarily function as a facilitator or regulator of domestic wholesale agricultural trade in India:
(A) Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC mandis)
(B) National Agriculture Market (e-NAM online portal)
(C) Food Corporation of India (FCI central procurement)
(D) Securities and Exchange Board of India

88. Which of the following accurately represents the current FDI limit in Multi-Brand Retail Trading (MBRT) in India (subject to specific government approvals and conditions)?
(A) 0% (Completely Prohibited)
(B) Up to 51%
(C) Up to 74%
(D) Up to 100% under automatic route

89. Given below are two statements:
Statement I: E-commerce logistics have led to the rapid growth of warehousing clusters near major tier-1 and tier-2 cities in India.
Statement II: E-commerce platforms in India are entirely exempt from the Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

90. The implementation of the 'Single Window Interface for Facilitating Trade' (SWIFT) by Indian Customs has primarily impacted the foreign trade landscape by:
(A) Substantially increasing administrative paperwork required for physical customs verification of cargo.
(B) Making statutory inspection mandatory at a single designated international seaport in India for all goods.
(C) Completely banning third-party logistics service providers from operating within international maritime trade.
(D) Lowering dwell time and costs via a single electronic declaration.

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ANSWERS

1. (C) Occasional trade surplus but mostly trade deficit
India's balance of trade since independence has predominantly remained in a deficit due to heavy import reliance on foreign crude oil, capital machinery, and essential raw materials. Although occasional trade surpluses were recorded during specific years like 1972–73 and 1976–77 owing to import curbs and temporary export surges, long-term trends consistently demonstrate merchandise trade deficits.

2. (A) I and II only
Engineering goods consistently constitute the single largest category within India's merchandise exports, accounting for roughly a quarter of foreign shipments. Refined petroleum products also feature among the top exported commodities. However, Rajasthan primarily exports dimensional stones, textiles, handicrafts, gems, and agricultural products rather than heavy machinery or crude oil, making the third statement factually inaccurate.

3. (D) Widening of the Current Account Deficit
India depends heavily on international crude oil imports to meet more than eighty percent of its total domestic energy requirements. A sharp increase in global crude oil prices inflates the total import bill for petroleum products, thereby expanding the merchandise trade deficit and directly contributing to a widening Current Account Deficit within the national balance of payments framework.

4. (A) 1, 2, 3, 4
The United States of America consistently serves as India's largest export destination, followed by the United Arab Emirates in second place. China stands as the third-largest recipient of Indian export merchandise, while the United Kingdom occupies a lower position further down the list. Consequently, the descending order of export shares places these nations in sequence from first to fourth.

5. (C) Total value of merchandise exports and merchandise imports
The Balance of Trade represents a core component of the balance of payments that explicitly measures physical or visible commerce. It is defined as the monetary difference between total exported merchandise and total imported merchandise over a specific timeframe, excluding invisible economic transactions such as trade in services, net primary income, and unilateral financial transfer remittances.

6. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Current Account encompasses visible merchandise trade alongside invisible components including service trade, primary net income, and secondary current transfers like inward worker remittances. Even if a nation incurs a merchandise trade deficit, significant net earnings from software exports and foreign remittances can offset the deficit, yielding an overall Current Account surplus, which directly confirms the underlying economic rationale.

7. (D) Incentives to duty remission and exemption
India's Foreign Trade Policy 2023 represents a paradigm shift in export policy strategy by transitioning away from traditional, subsidy-based financial export incentives toward mechanisms focused on duty remission and exemptions. This strategic policy reorientation ensures full compliance with World Trade Organization rules on subsidies while reducing transaction costs for exporters through automated, technology-driven trade facilitation systems.

8. (B) SEZs are treated as foreign territory strictly for the purpose of trade operations and duties.
Special Economic Zones are legally defined as duty-free enclaves considered foreign territory for commercial trade operations, customs duty application, and tariffs. Goods moving from domestic areas into these zones are treated as exports, while sales from these zones into domestic markets incur standard customs duties. Private entities can also manage these zones, and domestic sales are allowed under applicable regulations.

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9. (C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Specialized statutory bodies promote distinct commodity sectors in international markets. The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority manages agricultural product exports, whereas the Marine Products Export Development Authority oversees seafood trade. The Engineering Export Promotion Council focuses on machinery exports, while the Federation of Indian Export Organisations acts as the apex national coordinating body for export organizations.

10. (D) NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement)
The World Trade Organization administers global trade rules through multilateral agreements such as TRIPS for intellectual property rights, TRIMS for trade-related investment measures, and GATS for services trade. In contrast, the North American Free Trade Agreement was a regional trade pact established strictly between Canada, Mexico, and the United States, independent of World Trade Organization operations.

11. (A) South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) - India-ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement - India-UAE CEPA
India signed the South Asian Free Trade Area agreement in 2004 to strengthen economic integration within South Asia. This was followed by the signing of the India-ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement in 2009 to boost trade with Southeast Asian nations. Most recently, India signed the comprehensive trade deal with the United Arab Emirates in 2022.

12. (B) Create a unified market by electronically networking APMC mandis
The National Agriculture Market platform serves as a pan-India electronic trading portal that integrates existing Agricultural Produce Market Committee mandis into a unified national market for agricultural commodities. By networking physical mandis digitally, it facilitates real-time online trading, improves price discovery through competitive bidding, and enhances market access for farmers across states including Rajasthan.

13. (B) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) - Permitted up to 100% via automatic route in Single Brand Retail
India's foreign direct investment policy permits up to 100 percent foreign direct investment under the automatic route for Single Brand Product Retail Trading. Unorganized retail comprises small, traditional neighborhood kirana stores, while organized retail involves licensed, commercial chain supermarkets. Multi-Brand Retail Trading permits foreign investment up to 51 percent subject to government approval and specific conditional mandates.

14. (B) I, III and IV
Foreign direct investment policy permits 100 percent foreign investment under the automatic route solely for the e-commerce marketplace model, whereas foreign investment remains completely prohibited in inventory-based e-commerce models. E-commerce platforms significantly expand market reach for regional Geographical Indication products from Rajasthan, while the Open Network for Digital Commerce promotes open networks to democratize digital commerce nationwide.

15. (C) Paradip Port
Deendayal Port in Gujarat, Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Maharashtra, and New Mangalore Port in Karnataka are all situated along the western coastline of India along the Arabian Sea. In contrast, Paradip Port is strategically located in Odisha on the eastern coast along the Bay of Bengal, making its coastal geographical orientation distinct from the other listed ports.

16. (D) Inland Container Depots and Dedicated Freight Corridors
As a landlocked state lacking direct access to maritime coastlines, Rajasthan relies on robust inland logistics infrastructure to facilitate international merchandise trade. Inland Container Depots serve as dry ports for customs clearance and container handling, while Dedicated Freight Corridors enable fast, high-capacity rail transport connecting inland industrial production hubs directly to major maritime seaports across coastal states.

17. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
Free Trade Agreements primarily focus on reducing or removing tariff duties and non-tariff trade barriers among participating countries to increase bilateral commerce. India withdrew from the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership agreement primarily due to deep concerns regarding trade imbalances, inadequate

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protection against import surges, and the potential negative impact of cheap foreign goods on domestic agriculture and manufacturing.

18. (B) A consistently widening merchandise trade deficit always leads to a Current Account Surplus.
A merchandise trade deficit occurs when imported goods exceed exported goods in monetary value. India's reliance on imported crude oil, electronic equipment, and gold heavily drives this deficit. Rather than creating a surplus, a widening merchandise trade deficit expands the Current Account Deficit unless offset by exceptional gains in service exports, foreign remittances, or foreign investment transfers.

19. (D) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
The Directorate General of Foreign Trade functions as an attached office under the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry. It serves as the principal executive authority responsible for formulating, executing, and updating India's Foreign Trade Policy. It also handles import-export licensing, regulates foreign trade controls, and implements trade promotion measures to expand national exports globally.

20. (A) China
China has consistently ranked as India's premier single source of merchandise imports across recent financial years. India imports extensive quantities of critical industrial inputs, active pharmaceutical ingredients, electronic components, heavy machinery, organic chemicals, and telecom hardware from China, leading to a large and persistent bilateral trade deficit in favor of China.

21. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
Currency depreciation reduces foreign prices of domestic products, making exported goods more competitive globally. However, currency depreciation increases the domestic currency cost of imported inputs rather than reducing it. Exporters who rely heavily on imported raw materials or intermediate machinery face higher overall production costs, making the underlying reasoning provided factually incorrect despite the assertion being true.

22. (A) Provides credit insurance to exporters against payment risks
The Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India operates under the administrative supervision of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Its principal function is to provide credit insurance coverage to Indian exporters against foreign payment defaults caused by commercial risks, such as buyer insolvency, as well as political risks, including foreign exchange restrictions or war in destination countries.

23. (B) I and III only
Bangladesh represents India's largest trading partner within South Asia, supported by extensive cross-border trade initiatives and border haats established to promote local community commerce. Conversely, India maintains a significant merchandise trade surplus with Nepal rather than a deficit, because India exports large volumes of petroleum products, manufactured items, and essential commodities to Nepal.

24. (B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Economic slowdowns in Western consumer markets decrease demand for Indian exported goods like textiles and diamonds. Maritime geopolitical tensions along Red Sea navigation channels raise freight costs and cause shipping delays. Increases in US Federal Reserve interest rates drive global capital outflows from emerging markets, causing currency depreciation, while global demand boosts software service export revenues.

25. (C) Current Account as Unilateral Transfers
In Balance of Payments accounting, personal money transfers sent by non-resident Indians working overseas back to their domestic families represent unilateral current transfers. These transactions are recorded under secondary income within the Current Account because they involve one-way financial flows without any corresponding economic exchange or future financial repayment liabilities attached to the received funds.

26. (D) The composition of exports has shifted significantly towards manufactured goods and services.
Post-1991 economic liberalization fundamentally transformed India's foreign trade structure. The national trade basket shifted significantly from traditional primary commodities toward

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manufactured items, engineering products, pharmaceuticals, and technology services. Overall foreign trade volume as a percentage of gross domestic product expanded substantially, driven by market integration, tariff rationalization, and massive growth in IT-enabled service exports globally.

27. (A) Engineering, textiles, and gems & jewellery
Rajasthan's export performance is heavily anchored by manufacturing and handicraft sectors. Engineering products, textiles and readymade garments, along with gems and jewellery, collectively constitute the major share of total merchandise exports originating from the state. Other significant regional contributors include dimensional stones, polished marble, granite, handicrafts, and processed agricultural commodities.

28. (B) II only
India is not self-sufficient in edible oils and ranks among the world's largest importers of vegetable oils, including palm oil, soybean oil, and sunflower oil, to meet domestic consumption demands. Conversely, gold and silver form major non-oil imports, electronics represent a rapidly growing import segment, and coking coal is heavily imported for industrial steel production.

29. (A) 1, 2, 3
Among the specified economic regions, the Commonwealth of Independent States holds the smallest share in India's total merchandise export basket. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations accounts for a higher share due to established regional trade agreements. North America, driven primarily by the United States, commands the highest share among the three, establishing the ascending order.

30. (D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.
The Balance of Trade is narrower than the Current Account because it covers only physical merchandise exports and imports. In contrast, the Current Account includes visible merchandise trade plus invisible items like software services, investment income, and unilateral transfers. Surpluses in net invisible trade can successfully offset merchandise trade deficits, maintaining a overall current account balance.

31. (C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Exporting IT services constitutes trade in services within the Current Account, while inward Foreign Direct Investment represents capital inflow under the Capital Account. Repaying foreign loan principal involves capital outflow under the Capital Account, and importing crude oil reflects physical merchandise trade within the Current Account, correctly matching all corresponding entries in balance of payments accounting.

32. (D) Recognizes key producing towns for specialized export assistance
Towns of Export Excellence are designated urban centers recognized under India's Foreign Trade Policy for their significant industrial production and export performance. This recognition grants these specific towns priority financial assistance under the Market Access Initiative scheme, financial aid for technological upgrades, and modernized common infrastructure facilities to further enhance their global export competitiveness.

33. (C) Mahindra World City
Mahindra World City located near Jaipur is the premier multi-product Special Economic Zone in Rajasthan established through a public-private partnership between Mahindra Lifespaces and RIICO. The zone features specialized infrastructure clusters dedicated to information technology services, light engineering goods, handicrafts, and precision gem and jewellery manufacturing operations.

34. (B) Surat and Jaipur
Surat in Gujarat and Jaipur in Rajasthan serve as two primary national centers for gem processing. Surat is globally renowned for cutting and polishing natural and laboratory-grown diamonds. Jaipur acts as an international hub for cutting, polishing, and trading colored gemstones and precious stones, heavily supported by the Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council.

35. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Under World Trade Organization rules, domestic agricultural subsidies that exceed ten percent of total production value face potential challenge. The Peace Clause provides temporary legal protection to developing nations like India,

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CHAPTER 11
Physiography of Rajasthan

1. The physiographic structure of Rajasthan is primarily considered a remnant of which of the following ancient geological entities?
(A) Angaraland and the Tethys Sea
(B) Gondwanaland and the Tethys Sea
(C) Angaraland and Panthalassa
(D) Laurasia and the Tethys Sea

2. What percentage of Rajasthan's total geographical area is covered by the Western Sandy Plain?
(A) Approximately 55.11%
(B) Approximately 61.11%
(C) Approximately 66.11%
(D) Approximately 71.11%

3. Guru Shikhar, the highest peak of Rajasthan, is situated in the Mount Abu region. What is its exact elevation above mean sea level?
(A) 1722 meters
(B) 1597 meters
(C) 1431 meters
(D) 1380 meters

4. In the context of Rajasthan's physiography, which of the following best describes the general orientation of the Aravalli Range?
(A) Northwest to Southeast
(B) East to West
(C) Southwest to Northeast
(D) North to South

5. The fertile plain formed by the Mahi River and its tributaries, characterized by a complex network of 56 villages or streams, is locally known as:
(A) Chappan ka Maidan
(B) Bhorat ka Maidan
(C) Kanthal ka Maidan
(D) Uparmal ka Maidan

6. Geologically, the origin of the Aravalli mountain range dates back to which of the following eras?
(A) Precambrian Era
(B) Paleozoic Era
(C) Mesozoic Era
(D) Cenozoic Era

7. The Aravalli Range acts as a major water divide in Rajasthan. Which of the following best explains this phenomenon?
(A) It prevents monsoon winds from reaching the arid and semi-arid regions of Eastern Plains.
(B) It acts as a barrier separating the drainage basins of the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea.
(C) It serves as the primary origin point for all perennial and seasonal rivers in the state.
(D) It channels all the seasonal inland drainage networks of the Thar desert into Luni River.

8. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below.
List I: (Aravalli Peak)
P. Taragarh
Q. Raghunathgarh
R. Jarga
S. Achalgarh
List II: (District)
1. Sikar
2. Sirohi
3. Udaipur
4. Ajmer
(A) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

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9. The South-Eastern Plateau (Hadoti Plateau) is geologically characterized by the presence of which of the following rock formations?
(A) Igneous Granite and Metamorphic Gneiss Rocks
(B) Metamorphic Schist and Quartzite Rock Belts
(C) Volcanic Rock Mass of Malani Igneous Suite
(D) Basaltic Lava Deposits and Vindhyan Sandstone

10. The Chambal basin in the Eastern Plains of Rajasthan is highly characterized by 'Badland' topography. What is the local term used to describe these deep ravines?

ten-digit Importer-Exporter Code. Furthermore, the Directorate holds statutory administrative authority under national trade legislation to regulate, restrict, or prohibit specific merchandise movements to safeguard national security, public health, environmental sustainability, and natural resources.

45. (B) United States
India maintains a net merchandise trade surplus with the United States, which serves as one of India's largest overall export destinations. In contrast, India runs persistent bilateral trade deficits with China, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq due to substantial imports of electronic products, industrial capital goods, and crude petroleum from these three nations.

46. (A) Rupee depreciation increases the landed cost of imports in India.
When the domestic exchange rate depreciates against foreign currencies, buying foreign goods requires a higher amount of local currency, thereby raising landed import costs in domestic markets. Conversely, currency depreciation enhances price competitiveness for domestic exports in international markets, contrary to overvaluation which promotes foreign imports and harms domestic exporters.

47. (C) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
Commercial risk arises from buyer insolvency or long default, while political risk involves foreign war, trade embargos, or exchange restrictions in buyer countries. Export credit insurance provides specialized coverage against foreign buyer payment defaults, and pre-shipment finance offers bank loans to exporters for manufacturing or packing export goods prior to shipment.

48. (D) Myanmar
The Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project is a major bilateral infrastructure initiative undertaken jointly by India and Myanmar. The project links the eastern seaport of Kolkata in India with Sittwe Port in Myanmar via maritime routes, connecting further to Mizoram through inland river transport on the Kaladan River and highway road networks.

49. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Global multinational corporations are increasingly adopting the China Plus One strategy to diversify their supply chains and reduce concentrated manufacturing dependency on a single nation. This diversification movement creates major foreign investment and export manufacturing opportunities for emerging industrial destinations like India, directly validating the underlying logical relationship between both observations.

50. (B) Software and IT-enabled services
Software and information technology-enabled services dominate India's service exports, accounting for the largest share of foreign earnings in invisible trade. The massive success of IT services consistently generates a substantial positive trade surplus within the services account, helping cushion the overall Current Account by partially offsetting structural merchandise trade deficits.

51. (D) FDI was actively encouraged and freely permitted up to 100% across sectors.
Prior to the 1991 economic reforms, India followed a restrictive inward-looking trade strategy characterized by strict foreign investment controls, high tariff rates, import licensing, and quantitative import quotas. Foreign Direct Investment was heavily restricted rather than freely permitted up to 100 percent, aiming to protect domestic infant industries through structural import substitution policies.

52. (C) I and III only
Premium Basmati rice and spices represent major export earners within India's agricultural export portfolio, and the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority acts as the apex promotional body for scheduled agricultural items. However, India is not the world's largest wheat exporter, as domestic consumption absorbs most national production.

53. (C) Steel manufacturing industry
Coking coal and ferronickel serve as vital raw material inputs in the primary production and alloy processing of metallurgical steel. Reducing import duties on these essential intermediate raw materials directly lowers input costs for domestic steel manufacturers, enhancing industrial production efficiency and boosting international competitiveness for domestic steel product exports globally.

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permitting them to exceed standard agricultural subsidy caps for public stockholding programs without legal dispute from other nations, thereby safeguarding national food security initiatives.

36. (A) CEPA covers services, investment, and cooperation beyond tariff cuts on goods.
While a standard Free Trade Agreement focuses primarily on reducing or eliminating tariff and non-tariff barriers on physical merchandise goods, a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement is broader in scope. A CEPA encompasses trade in services, cross-border foreign investment policies, intellectual property rights, economic cooperation, digital trade, regulatory harmonization, and government procurement frameworks.

37. (C) MSP - Maximum Selling Price legally mandated for private traders
Minimum Support Price represents the guaranteed price floor set by the central government to protect domestic agricultural producers against sharp drops in farm prices. It is not a Maximum Selling Price nor a cap imposed on private traders. The APMC, e-NAM portal, and Food Corporation of India correctly reflect agricultural marketing and procurement institutions.

38. (B) I and III only
Unorganized retail accounts for the vast majority of India's retail sector, comprising small neighborhood kirana stores, informal vendors, and traditional street markets. Local kiranas belong to unorganized retail rather than organized retail. The widespread adoption of Unified Payments Interface technology has rapidly digitized payment mechanisms across these unorganized micro-retail operations nationwide.

39. (D) To establish a complete government monopoly over all e-commerce operations in India
The Open Network for Digital Commerce is a government-backed initiative intended to democratize digital commerce by shifting from platform-centric models to an open-network architecture. Its main goals are empowering small sellers, onboarding micro enterprises, enhancing merchant interoperability, and expanding consumer choice, explicitly avoiding any intent to establish a central state monopoly over commercial e-commerce.

40. (A) Haldia - Paradip - Visakhapatnam - Chennai
Along the eastern coast of India, major seaports follow a geographic progression from north to south. Haldia in West Bengal is located furthest north, followed by Paradip Port in Odisha. Visakhapatnam Port in Andhra Pradesh lies further south, and Chennai Port in Tamil Nadu occupies the southernmost position among the listed eastern harbors.

41. (C) PM Gati Shakti
PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan is an integrated multi-modal infrastructure platform launched to transform logistics across India. It synchronizes project planning across multiple infrastructure ministries—including railways, roadways, shipping, aviation, and industrial zones—to eliminate regulatory bottlenecks, lower overall domestic transport expenses, and accelerate cargo movement efficiency for domestic and international trade.

42. (D) Domestic auto firms face heavy price competition, lowering market share.
Eliminating import tariffs on foreign automobiles under a bilateral Free Trade Agreement enables advanced foreign manufacturers to price their vehicles more competitively within the domestic Indian market. This influx of lower-duty imported vehicles increases market competition, potentially threatening the domestic market share and profit margins of local vehicle manufacturing firms.

43. (B) I, II and IV only
High domestic reliance on imported crude oil, massive consumer import demand for physical gold, and structural dependence on foreign active pharmaceutical ingredients and electronic components represent major drivers of India's merchandise trade deficit. Conversely, rapid growth in IT and software service exports generates foreign exchange surplus within invisible trade rather than causing merchandise deficits.

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44. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
The Directorate General of Foreign Trade mandates that all commercial entities obtaining import or export customs clearance possess a

sells merchandise from multiple distinct brands across diverse consumer product categories. Hypermarkets, chain supermarkets, and multi-brand department stores function under this format, offering consumers a wide variety of competing foreign and domestic product lines under a single store umbrella.

64. (D) 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is permitted in the marketplace model of e-commerce under the automatic route.
India's foreign direct investment guidelines permit 100 percent foreign direct investment under the automatic route for marketplace e-commerce entities, which act strictly as digital facilitators connecting independent buyers and sellers. Foreign investment remains completely prohibited in inventory-based models, and e-commerce platforms are forbidden from offering predatory discounting or favoring select platform vendors.

65. (C) Mundra Port
Chennai, Cochin, and Mormugao ports represent public major ports governed directly by the Central Government under the Major Port Trusts statutory framework. In contrast, Mundra Port in Gujarat is a commercial private port developed and operated by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited, falling under state maritime board jurisdiction.

66. (B) The AEO program has slowed down customs clearance for exporters.
The Authorized Economic Operator program implemented by customs authorities accelerates international trade logistics by providing certified, trusted commercial entities with expedited customs clearance, minimized cargo inspections, and simplified documentation procedures. ICEGATE manages digital customs filings, Inland Container Depots serve as dry ports, and Dedicated Freight Corridors streamline rail transit.

67. (D) USD 100 Billion
The Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement entered into between India and the United Arab Emirates in 2022 sets a target to expand non-oil bilateral trade in goods and services to 100 billion US dollars within five years. The pact drastically eliminates customs tariffs across extensive product categories, boosting economic integration.

68. (A) Selling dollars from foreign exchange reserves
To mitigate rapid depreciation of the Indian Rupee caused by elevated merchandise trade deficits or capital outflows, the Reserve Bank of India intervenes in foreign exchange markets by selling US dollars from reserve assets. This intervention increases dollar liquidity in foreign exchange markets, suppressing extreme exchange rate volatility.

69. (C) Directly collecting customs duties at all international seaports
The Directorate General of Foreign Trade formulates foreign trade policy, regulates export-import procedures, issues trade licenses, and manages mentoring programs like Niryat Bandhu. However, collecting customs duties at international seaports falls exclusively under the jurisdiction of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, operating under the Ministry of Finance.

70. (A) United States - Textiles and raw jute
The United States is a primary destination for Indian exports including IT services, pharmaceuticals, cut diamonds, and textiles, rather than a exporter of raw jute or textiles to India. Conversely, Switzerland supplies unwrought gold, Iraq exports crude oil, and Indonesia provides palm oil and thermal coal to meet India's domestic import demand.

71. (D) The inflation-adjusted weighted average currency value against a trade basket
The Real Effective Exchange Rate measures the inflation-adjusted weighted average value of a country's currency relative to an index or basket of major trading partner currencies. It adjusts Nominal Effective Exchange Rates for domestic and foreign price level differentials, serving as an indicator of national international trade competitiveness over time.

72. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
ECGC Ltd. is a fully government-owned enterprise operating under the administrative authority of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Its export credit insurance policies explicitly cover both commercial risks, such as foreign buyer insolvency or non-payment, and political risks, including foreign war, civil unrest, export restrictions, and exchange transfer delays.

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54. (A) Germany
Germany stands firmly as India's largest single trading partner within the European Union in terms of overall merchandise trade volume. Commercial exchanges between both nations encompass industrial machinery, electrical equipment, chemical products, vehicles, and precision instruments, maintaining Germany as India's leading economic partner in the European bloc.

55. (B) I, II and IV
Balance of Trade strictly measures visible trade in physical, tangible merchandise, excluding invisible service exports such as software development. A negative trade balance indicates that merchandise imports exceed exports. India has historically recorded a structural merchandise trade deficit for almost every year since 1990, rendering the surplus statement inaccurate.

56. (B) Foreign currency assets, RBI gold, SDRs, and IMF Reserve Tranche Position
Official Foreign Exchange Reserves managed by the Reserve Bank of India consist of four core financial assets: Foreign Currency Assets held in foreign reserve currencies, physical gold held by the central bank, Special Drawing Rights allocated by the International Monetary Fund, and the national Reserve Tranche Position in the IMF.

57. (C) Complete nationalization of all export operations
India's Foreign Trade Policy 2023 focuses on four central pillars: shifting from financial incentives to duty remission, enhancing ease of doing business via automation, promoting collaborative export growth through districts, and developing emerging export sectors. Complete nationalization of export operations contradicts market principles and forms no part of the policy.

58. (D) Export Oriented Unit (EOU) - A scheme that is strictly restricted to operations only inside designated SEZ physical boundaries
Export Oriented Units can be established anywhere in India subject to operational licensing, and are not strictly restricted to physical Special Economic Zone boundaries. The Domestic Tariff Area refers to regions outside SEZs, Net Foreign Exchange earning is mandatory for SEZ units, and the SEZ Act of 2005 sets the legal framework.

59. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
Export Promotion Councils operate as autonomous, non-profit bodies supported by central government grants to foster product-specific export development. Exporters seeking to access concessions, tax remissions, or benefits mandated under the Foreign Trade Policy are required to hold a valid Registration-cum-Membership Certificate issued by their respective industry export promotion council.

60. (B) To adjudicate trade disputes between member countries based on WTO agreements
The Dispute Settlement Body of the World Trade Organization functions as the principal international mechanism for resolving trade disputes between sovereign member states. It forms dedicated dispute panels, reviews legal appeals, mandates operational compliance, and enforces adherence to multilateral trade rules to uphold order across global international commerce.

61. (B) Prevents non-members from routing goods via ASEAN for lower tariffs.
Rules of Origin provisions within free trade agreements define specific value-addition and processing criteria required for commodities to qualify for lower preferential tariffs. These regulations prevent third-party non-member nations from transshipping goods through treaty partners with minor modifications to exploit lower customs duties, protecting domestic markets from trade deflection.

62. (A) Market fragmentation, high commission fees, and poor cold storage
Domestic wholesale agricultural trade in India faces significant bottlenecks including market fragmentation under localized APMC mandates, excessive middleman commission charges, opaque pricing mechanisms, and insufficient cold storage logistics. These structural shortcomings result in high post-harvest agricultural losses and diminished financial returns for farming households across physical mandis.

63. (C) Multi-Brand Retail
Multi-Brand Retail defines commercial store formats operated by a corporate entity that

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India's Foreign Trade Policy to replace the earlier MEIS scheme, RoDTEP provides mechanisms to refund non-creditable central, state, and local duties and taxes incurred on raw materials and inputs used during the domestic manufacture of exported commodities.

83. (D) Processing Area
In Special Economic Zone terminology, the Processing Area refers to the specific geographic zone designated strictly for manufacturing goods, conducting export trade, or providing services. Units established within this processing area enjoy tax concessions, customs duty exemptions, and infrastructure support to produce export goods, while non-processing areas handle commercial residential infrastructure.

84. (A) They provide market intelligence, trade fair access, and compliance aid.
Export Promotion Councils are vital for micro, small, and medium enterprises because smaller firms often lack resources to navigate foreign markets independently. Councils support MSMEs by providing international market intelligence, organizing trade fair participation, facilitating buyer-seller meets, offering trade compliance assistance, and simplifying complex export documentation procedures.

85. (C) India must extend equal trade concessions to all WTO member countries.
Under the Most Favored Nation principle of the World Trade Organization, a member country must extend equal trade treatment and concessions granted to one trading partner to all other WTO member nations. It prohibits economic discrimination between trading partners, ensuring equal market access, uniform customs tariffs, and non-discriminatory trade rules across member states.

86. (A) SAARC
The South Asian Free Trade Area agreement was created under the auspices of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. Signed in 2004, SAFTA aimed to reduce customs tariffs and trade barriers among SAARC member nations—including India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, and Afghanistan—to foster regional trade integration.

87. (D) Securities and Exchange Board of India
Agricultural Produce Market Committees, the e-NAM platform, and the Food Corporation of India facilitate, regulate, or manage domestic agricultural trade and foodgrain procurement. In contrast, the Securities and Exchange Board of India acts strictly as the capital market regulator overseeing securities exchanges, financial markets, and listed corporations, maintaining no direct role in physical wholesale agricultural trading.

88. (B) Up to 51%
Under India's current foreign direct investment policy framework, foreign direct investment in Multi-Brand Retail Trading is permitted up to 51 percent under the government approval route. This FDI approval is subject to specific state-level authorizations, domestic sourcing mandates from small enterprises, and minimum investment commitments toward back-end supply chain infrastructure.

89. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
The expansion of e-commerce commerce in India has driven demand for large distribution hubs and warehousing clusters near urban consumer markets. However, e-commerce entities are not exempt from regulation; they are governed by the Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020, which mandate fair trade practices, transparent pricing, grievance redressal mechanisms, and seller disclosures.

90. (D) Lowering dwell time and costs via a single electronic declaration.
The Single Window Interface for Facilitating Trade initiative introduced by Indian Customs allows importers and exporters to submit all necessary customs declarations, regulatory clearances, and trade documentation electronically through a single online portal. This digital integration reduces cargo dwell time at seaports, minimizes transaction expenses, and enhances operational efficiency across international supply chains.

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73. (C) Lower exports to Sri Lanka owing to dollar illiquidity and payment defaults
When a trading partner experiences a severe sovereign debt and foreign currency liquidity crisis, domestic importers in that nation lack access to foreign exchange dollars required to settle import transactions. This illiquidity restricts trade mechanisms, leading to reduced Indian exports to that market, increased risk of payment defaults, and delayed settlements.

74. (D) Taxes carbon-intensive imports like steel and aluminum, impacting exports
The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism introduced by the European Union imposes carbon tariffs on imported carbon-intensive products like steel, aluminum, cement, fertilizers, and electricity from non-EU countries. This mechanism requires importers to buy carbon certificates corresponding to embedded emissions, increasing export compliance costs for carbon-intensive Indian industrial exporters trading with European markets.

75. (A) Medical tourism, education, and consultancy are growing service exports.
India's service exports extend beyond IT services into rapidly expanding segments like medical tourism, professional management consultancy, higher education, and engineering services. India maintains a continuous net trade surplus in services trade rather than a deficit, while personal worker remittances are classified under secondary transfer income rather than merchandise trade balances.

76. (B) Dimensional stones, handicrafts, and agricultural products
Rajasthan contributes substantially to India's export merchandise basket through dimensional natural stones including marble, sandstone, and granite, traditional handicrafts, cut gems, textiles, and agricultural commodities like guar gum and spices. As a landlocked inland state, it does not participate in shipbuilding or offshore marine crude extraction activities.

77. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
The Districts as Export Hubs initiative aims to convert every district into an export hub by identifying regional products with export potential, addressing supply chain bottlenecks, and expanding market access. Under this initiative, specific export products have been mapped across all districts in Rajasthan, such as Blue Pottery in Jaipur and hand-printed textiles.

78. (A) Crude sunflower oil and palm oil
Capital goods consist of durable manufactured physical assets used in the downstream production of other commercial goods or services, including heavy industrial machinery, machine tools, specialized engines, and transport equipment. In contrast, crude sunflower oil and palm oil represent agricultural raw materials and consumer goods imported to meet domestic food consumption demands.

79. (C) United Arab Emirates
The United Arab Emirates has solidified its position as India's third-largest trading partner globally, following the United States and China. Bilateral economic ties between India and the UAE have been significantly strengthened following the implementation of the historic Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, which expanded trade across non-oil goods and services sectors.

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80. (D) Curbs low-cost artificial imports to narrow the trade deficit.
Imposing anti-dumping duties on low-priced imported products counters unfair foreign trade practices where overseas exporters dump goods below fair market cost into domestic markets. Raising import duties on dumped imports increases their domestic price, protecting local manufacturers from unfair competition, restricting non-essential import volumes, and helping narrow the merchandise trade deficit.

81. (C) When imports of goods, services, and net outgoing income exceed total exports.
A Current Account Deficit occurs when a nation's total payments for imported goods, services, and primary investment income, combined with outgoing transfer payments, exceed total earnings from exported merchandise, exported services, and incoming transfers. It reflects a net outward transaction balance within the Current Account framework of the national Balance of Payments.

82. (B) Rebate of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products
RoDTEP stands for Rebate of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products. Implemented under

(A) Utkhat
(B) Khadin
(C) Rohi
(D) Johad

11. The 'Lathi Series' in the Jaisalmer district is primarily significant for which of the following reasons?
(A) It is a major rich source of high-grade copper ore deposits.
(B) It is a major underground geological aquifer in the desert region.
(C) It is a long, continuous stretch of active Barchan sand dunes.
(D) It is an ancient trade and caravan route crossing the Thar desert.

12. Consider the following statements regarding 'Barchan' sand dunes in Rajasthan:
I. They are crescent-shaped dunes with a highly mobile nature.
II. They are dominantly found in the Shekhawati and Churu regions.
III. They are stabilized dunes that prevent the expansion of desertification.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) II and III only
(B) I and II only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

13. The elevated, rugged region situated between Kumbhalgarh and Gogunda in the Aravalli range is known as:
(A) Bhorat Plateau
(B) Odiya Plateau
(C) Mesa Plateau
(D) Lasadiya Plateau

14. Identify the odd one out among the following geomorphological features found in Western Rajasthan.
(A) Barchan
(B) Seif
(C) Khadin
(D) Parabolic

15. Select the correct order of the following Aravalli mountain peaks from highest to lowest elevation.
(A) Ser, Guru Shikhar, Jarga, Dilwara
(B) Guru Shikhar, Dilwara, Ser, Jarga
(C) Guru Shikhar, Ser, Jarga, Dilwara
(D) Guru Shikhar, Ser, Dilwara, Jarga

16. Among the four major physiographic divisions of Rajasthan, which one accounts for the smallest geographical area?
(A) Western Sandy Plain Region
(B) Central Aravalli Hilly Region
(C) South-Eastern Hadoti Plateau
(D) Eastern Agricultural Plains

17. Which of the following statements about the Ghaggar Plain is incorrect?
(A) It encompasses the northernmost districts of Sri Ganganagar and Hanumangarh.
(B) It constitutes a major part of the Luni River basin in Southern Rajasthan.
(C) The plain is formed by the alluvial deposits of the ancient Saraswati river system.
(D) It is locally referred to as the 'Nali' or 'Naali' region.

18. Which climatic line roughly divides the state of Rajasthan into two distinct geographical parts, acting as a boundary between the arid/semi-arid west and the sub-humid east?
(A) 25 cm isohyet
(B) 50 cm isohyet
(C) 75 cm isohyet
(D) 100 cm isohyet

19. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Western Rajasthan receives significantly less rainfall during the southwest monsoon season.
Reason (R): The alignment of the Aravalli Range is parallel to the direction of the Arabian Sea branch of the monsoon.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

20. The total length of the Aravalli Range from Palanpur (Gujarat) to Raisina Hill (Delhi) is about 692 km. What is its approximate length within the state boundaries of Rajasthan?
(A) 450 km
(B) 550 km
(C) 600 km
(D) 650 km

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21. In the arid tracts of Jaisalmer, low-lying depressions between sand dunes where rainwater accumulates temporarily are structurally modified by the Paliwal Brahmins for agriculture. These systems are called:
(A) Khadin
(B) Johad
(C) Bawari
(D) Toba

22. Consider the following statements regarding the Aravalli Range:
I. It is classified as a relict or residual mountain system.
II. It is characterized predominantly by sedimentary rock formations.
III. It historically hindered the eastward march of the Thar desert.
IV. It was formed during the Precambrian tectonic activities.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II and III
(B) II, III and IV
(C) I, II and IV
(D) I, III and IV

23. The term 'Girwa' in the physiography of Rajasthan refers to:
(A) The deeply eroded and ravined landscape along the Chambal river.
(B) The saucer-shaped sequence of hills surrounding Udaipur city.
(C) The highly saline surface depressions found in the Nagaur uplands.
(D) The isolated, steep-sided granitic hillocks in the Jalore region.

24. Which of the following represents the highest peak of the Central Aravalli region?
(A) Raghunathgarh
(B) Achalgarh
(C) Taragarh
(D) Babai

25. Which of the following districts does NOT fall under the South-Eastern Plateau (Hadoti region) of Rajasthan?
(A) Kota
(B) Bundi
(C) Baran
(D) Dausa

26. The Great Boundary Fault (GBF) of Rajasthan runs almost parallel to the hill ranges of which districts?
(A) Bundi and Sawai Madhopur
(B) Udaipur and Rajsamand districts
(C) Jalore and Sirohi districts
(D) Sikar and Jhunjhunu districts

27. The elevated plateau region situated between Bijolia (Bhilwara) and Bhainsrorgarh (Chittorgarh) is traditionally known as:
(A) Bhorat
(B) Uparmal
(C) Kherad
(D) Chappan

28. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below.
List I: (Local Name/Region)
P. Godwar
Q. Thali
R. Nali
S. Beed
List II: (Physiographic Characteristic)
1. Luni River Basin
2. Northern parts of Bikaner and Churu
3. Bed of the Ghaggar River
4. Pasture lands in the Shekhawati region
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(D) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4

29. The formation of the Sambhar Salt Lake, the largest inland salt lake in India, is most appropriately attributed to which geological phenomenon according to prevalent tectonic theories?
(A) Structural depression created by tectonic faulting in Aravallis.
(B) Intensive wind erosion processes creating a massive land blowout.
(C) A major meteorite impact event during the Pleistocene epoch.
(D) Remnants of an ancient volcanic crater from Deccan trap formation.

30. Identify the odd one out among the following river basins in the context of the Eastern Plains of Rajasthan.
(A) Banas Basin
(B) Mahi Basin
(C) Luni Basin
(D) Chambal Basin

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31. The Deccan Trap formations in Rajasthan, characterized by basaltic lava deposits and black soil, are predominantly localized in which districts?
(A) Jodhpur, Bikaner, and Nagaur
(B) Udaipur, Dungarpur, and Banswara
(C) Alwar, Bharatpur, and Dholpur
(D) Kota, Jhalawar, and Baran

32. Arrange the four major physiographic divisions of Rajasthan in descending order based on their percentage share of the state's total geographical area.
1. Western Sandy Plain
2. Eastern Plains
3. Aravalli Hilly Region
4. South-Eastern Plateau (Hadoti)

Select the correct code:
(A) 1, 3, 2, 4
(B) 2, 1, 3, 4
(C) 1, 2, 3, 4
(D) 1, 2, 4, 3

33. Which isohyet line primarily divides the Western Sandy Plain into the fully arid Marusthali and the semi-arid Rajasthan Bangar?
(A) 10 cm isohyet
(B) 25 cm isohyet
(C) 50 cm isohyet
(D) 75 cm isohyet

34. From an ecological perspective, what is the most significant role of the Aravalli range in Rajasthan's environment?
(A) It serves as the primary origin point for the upper tributaries of Indus river system.
(B) It induces heavy annual orographic rainfall across the arid Jaisalmer district.
(C) It acts as the primary ecological zone for tropical evergreen forests in North India.
(D) It functions as a physical barrier against the eastward expansion of Thar desert.

35. Consider the following statements about the 'Marusthali' sub-region of Western Rajasthan:
I. It represents the most arid and desertified tract of the state.
II. It is characterized by extensive sand dune formations and very low annual rainfall.
III. It supports a dense network of perennial rivers and dense broadleaf forests.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?
(A) III only
(B) I and II only
(C) I and III only
(D) II only

36. The highest plateau in Rajasthan is the Odiya (Oriya) Plateau. What is its approximate elevation above mean sea level?
(A) 1200 meters
(B) 1360 meters
(C) 1431 meters
(D) 1722 meters

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37. Which of the following is NOT a type of sand dune typically found in the Thar desert of Rajasthan?
(A) Drumlin
(B) Longitudinal (Seif)
(C) Parabolic
(D) Barchan

38. In the geomorphology of the Aravalli foothills, particularly around Devgarh in the Banas basin, an elevated, residual erosional plain is referred to as:
(A) Pediment Surface
(B) Hamada
(C) Bajada
(D) Piedmont Plain

39. In the context of desert geomorphology in Rajasthan, the term 'Hamada' specifically refers to:
(A) A highly mobile and shifting crescent-shaped sand dune ridge.
(B) A barren, rocky, and stone-paved desert plain clear of sand.
(C) A temporary saline playa lake formed within a desert depression.
(D) An oasis supporting date palm and localized crop cultivation.

40. The Vindhyan scarplands of the South-Eastern Plateau are predominantly composed of which types of sedimentary rocks?
(A) Crystalline Granite and Gneiss Rocks
(B) Foliated Schist and Phyllite Belts
(C) Sedimentary Sandstone and Limestone
(D) Volcanic Rhyolite and Tuff Deposits

41. How does the physiography of Western Rajasthan directly influence its agricultural cropping pattern?
(A) The rocky basaltic terrain with volcanic soils favors widespread cotton cultivation across the region.
(B) The dense network of perennial rivers

ANSWERS

1. (B) Gondwanaland and the Tethys Sea
Rajasthan's physiography is divided into ancient geological divisions. The Aravalli Mountain Range and the South-Eastern Hadoti Plateau are remnants of the stable Gondwanaland mass, while the vast Western Sandy Plain and the Eastern Plains evolved from the depression of the ancient Tethys Sea through continuous marine regressions, sedimentations, and subsequent tectonic and aeolian activities.

2. (B) Approximately 61.11%
The Western Sandy Plain, also recognized as the Thar Desert region, represents the largest physiographic unit in Rajasthan. It spreads over roughly 61.11% of the total geographic region of the state, sustaining about 40% of the state's total population. This region is structurally categorized into the hyper-arid Marusthali and semi-arid Rajasthan Bangar.

3. (A) 1722 meters
Guru Shikhar stands as the highest peak in Rajasthan and the entire Aravalli Range, reaching an elevation of exactly 1722 meters above mean sea level. Located in the Mount Abu region of Sirohi district, it represents a granite batholith feature. A small temple dedicated to Dattatreya at the summit adds five additional meters.

4. (C) Southwest to Northeast
The Aravalli Mountain Range traverses Rajasthan in a distinct southwest to northeast direction, extending from Khedbrahma in Sirohi district up to Khetri in Jhunjhunu district. This unique spatial orientation runs parallel to the incoming monsoon winds from the Arabian Sea, significantly reducing rainfall deposition and contributing directly to western desertification.

5. (A) Chappan ka Maidan
The Chappan ka Maidan refers to the fertile alluvial plain located in southern Rajasthan, covering parts of Banswara, Pratapgarh, and Dungarpur districts. It is drained by the Mahi River and its tributaries. The name originates from fifty-six river streams or clusters of fifty-six villages that historically structured this distinct hydrological landscape.

6. (A) Precambrian Era
The Aravalli Mountain Range is recognized as one of the oldest fold mountain systems in the world, having originated during the Precambrian Era over 600 million years ago. Through millions of years of intense weathering, erosion, and tectonic forces, it has gradually morphed into a relict or residual mountain system.

7. (B) It acts as a barrier separating the drainage basins of the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea.
The Aravalli Range functions as a critical hydrological divide across Rajasthan. Streams originating on its eastern slopes, such as the Banas, drain eventually into the Bay of Bengal via the Chambal and Yamuna rivers. Conversely, rivers rising on its western slopes, including the Luni and Sabarmati, flow into the Arabian Sea.

8. (C) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
Taragarh peak is located in the Ajmer district of the Central Aravalli region. Raghunathgarh represents the highest peak of Northern Aravalli located in Sikar district. Jarga peak is situated in Udaipur district, forming a major peak of Southern Aravalli. Achalgarh peak lies within Sirohi district near the Mount Abu block.

9. (D) Basaltic Lava Deposits and Vindhyan Sandstone
The South-Eastern Plateau, commonly termed Hadoti, is geologically characterized by volcanic eruptions from the Cretaceous period that produced basaltic lava deposits forming the Malwa Plateau extension. Additionally, sedimentary Vindhyan sandstones and limestones form prominent scarp structures, creating a unique combination of volcanic rocks and sedimentary formations across the region.

10. (A) Utkhat
The Chambal River basin in eastern Rajasthan exhibits severe gully erosion, forming a deeply dissected, rugged landscape known as badland topography. In local geographical terminology, this eroded ravine terrain is called Utkhat land.

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List II: (Key Characteristic/Resource)
1. One of the oldest Archean basement rocks
2. Sandstone and limestone deposits
3. Rhyolite and granitic rocks in western Rajasthan
4. Productive groundwater aquifer

(A) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(B) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3

53. Desertification in Rajasthan is increasingly affecting the eastern districts. From a geomorphological perspective, this expansion is primarily facilitated by:
(A) Wind erosion carrying sand through gaps in Aravallis like the Sambhar gap.
(B) Recent tectonic upliftment and structural faulting across the Eastern Plains region.
(C) The shifting course of the Chambal river towards the western arid regions.
(D) Rapid melting of non-existent high-altitude glaciers in the Aravalli peaks.

54. Identify the odd one out concerning the typical distribution of mineral resources based on Rajasthan's physiography.
(A) Copper (Aravalli Region)
(B) Lead and Zinc (Aravalli Region)
(C) Gypsum (Western Sandy Plain)
(D) Lignite Coal (Eastern Plains)

55. Arrange the following mountain peaks of the Aravalli Range from North to South geographically.
1. Raghunathgarh
2. Taragarh
3. Kumbhalgarh
4. Guru Shikhar

Select the correct code:
(A) 2, 1, 3, 4
(B) 1, 2, 3, 4
(C) 1, 3, 2, 4
(D) 4, 3, 2, 1

56. The demographic data indicates that the Western Sandy Plain is the most populous desert globally. Approximately what percentage of Rajasthan's total population resides in this region?
(A) 30%
(B) 40%
(C) 50%
(D) 61%

57. The 'Kherad' region, known for its rugged and undulating plain topography, is a part of which river basin?
(A) Mahi Basin
(B) Luni Basin
(C) Sabarmati Basin
(D) Banas Basin

58. Consider the following statements about the Luni River Basin:
I. It is commonly referred to as the Godwar tract in southwestern Rajasthan.
II. It possesses patches of fertile alluvial and loamy soils suitable for agriculture.
III. It acts as the primary drainage system for the entire South-Eastern Plateau (Hadoti).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

59. What kind of soil order is predominantly found in the arid and semi-arid tracts of the Western Sandy Plain?
(A) Alfisols
(B) Aridisols
(C) Inceptisols
(D) Vertisols

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60. The transverse, crescent-shaped sand dunes that pose the highest threat of active desertification to settlements and agriculture in Rajasthan are called:
(A) Longitudinal Seif dunes
(B) Crescent Barchan dunes
(C) Multi-pointed Star dunes
(D) Shrub-stabilized Nebkha dunes

61. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Hadoti plateau has emerged as a major center for cultivating cash crops like soybean and coriander.
Reason (R): The plateau is covered with moisture-retaining black soils (Vertisols) weathered from basaltic lava flows.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

supports extensive year-round paddy and wheat cultivation.
(C) The high-altitude cool plateaus provide an ideal environment for commercial apple orchards.
(D) The sandy soil and low moisture retention favor drought-resistant crops like Bajra (Pearl Millet).

42. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Eastern Plains are the most densely populated physiographic division of Rajasthan.
Reason (R): The region features highly fertile alluvial soils deposited by rivers and has adequate water availability for agriculture.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

43. Identify the odd one out among the following mountain passes (Naals) of Rajasthan.
(A) Desuri ki Naal
(B) Mukundara Pass
(C) Someshwar ki Naal
(D) Hathiguda ki Naal

44. The Lasadiya plateau, characterized by a highly irregular, dissected, and rugged topography, is located to the east of which prominent water body?
(A) Historic Pushkar Lake
(B) Jaisamand Lake
(C) Scenic Pichola Lake
(D) Nakki Lake (Mount Abu)

45. The historic Chittorgarh Fort is geographically situated on which of the following plateaus?
(A) Mesa Plateau
(B) Bhorat Plateau
(C) Uparmal Plateau
(D) Kherad Plateau

46. The rich reserves of petroleum and natural gas discovered in the Barmer-Sanchore basin of Western Rajasthan are primarily associated with the rocks of which geological period?
(A) Precambrian and Archean
(B) Tertiary and Mesozoic
(C) Quaternary
(D) Carboniferous

47. In the desert vernacular of Rajasthan, features such as 'Thob', 'Bap', and 'Pachpadra' are examples of:
(A) Natural fresh water springs and stepwells (Bawari)
(B) Vegetation-stabilized transverse sand dunes
(C) Isolated granitic mountain knolls or inselbergs
(D) Saline depressions or desert Playa lakes

48. Consider the following geographic sub-regions:
I. Luni Basin (Godwar Tract)
II. Nagaur Uplands
III. Shekhawati Inland Drainage Region
IV. Ghaggar Plain
Which of the above sub-regions form part of the Rajasthan Bangar (Semi-arid plain)?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) II, III and IV only
(C) I, II, III and IV
(D) I, III and IV only

49. Which of the following Aravalli mountain peaks is NOT situated in the Southern Aravalli region?
(A) Jarga Peak
(B) Raghunathgarh
(C) Achalgarh Peak
(D) Delwara Peak

50. According to the USDA soil taxonomy applied to Rajasthan, 'Vertisols' are predominantly linked to which physiographic region?
(A) Western Sandy Plain Region
(B) Central Aravalli Hilly Region
(C) Eastern Agricultural Plains
(D) South-Eastern Hadoti Plateau

51. The Nagaur uplands are distinctively known in the physiography of Rajasthan for which of the following features?
(A) Inland salt lakes and a fluoride-rich groundwater belt
(B) Deep alluvial ravines and dense deciduous forests
(C) Extensive basaltic lava flows and black soils
(D) The highest concentration of crescent-shaped Barchan dunes

52. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below.
List I: (Geological Formation)

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S. Uparmal Plateau
List II: (Primary District/Region)
1. Chittorgarh
2. Sirohi
3. Bhilwara to Chittorgarh
4. Rajsamand to Udaipur
(A) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(B) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

72. Identify the odd one out among the following lakes based on their geomorphological origin and water characteristics in Rajasthan.
(A) Sambhar Lake
(B) Didwana Lake
(C) Nakki Lake
(D) Pachpadra Lake

73. Traditional earthen check dams or ponds constructed specifically to capture runoff water for groundwater recharge and livestock use in the Shekhawati region are called:
(A) Bawari
(B) Toba
(C) Khadin
(D) Johad

74. Select the correct chronological order of the following geological rock systems found in Rajasthan, from the oldest to the youngest.
(A) Bhilwara Supergroup, Aravalli Supergroup, Delhi Supergroup, Vindhyan System
(B) Vindhyan System, Delhi Supergroup, Aravalli Supergroup, Bhilwara Supergroup
(C) Aravalli Supergroup, Bhilwara Supergroup, Vindhyan System, Delhi Supergroup
(D) Delhi Supergroup, Vindhyan System, Bhilwara Supergroup, Aravalli Supergroup

75. The presence of significant petroleum and natural gas deposits in the western desert of Rajasthan is fundamentally attributed to:
(A) Extensive basaltic volcanic eruption activity occurring during the Deccan trap formation epoch.
(B) Marine sedimentary basins formed by Tethys Sea remnants during the Tertiary period.
(C) Intense regional metamorphic compression and deformation deep within the Aravalli roots.
(D) Large-scale cosmic meteorite impact events taking place throughout the Cenozoic era.

76. Which of the following is NOT an erosional landform typically associated with the arid and semi-arid regions of Rajasthan?
(A) Inselberg
(B) Barchan
(C) Yardang
(D) Zeugen

77. A gently sloping bedrock surface that is found at the base of a receding mountain or hill in the arid landscape of Rajasthan is geomorphologically termed as a:
(A) Pediment
(B) Playa lake
(C) Bajada plain
(D) Erg desert

78. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Banas River Basin exhibits a dense pattern of rural agricultural settlements.
Reason (R): The basin is characterized by a highly rugged, mountainous terrain covered with thick deciduous forests.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

79. In the context of alluvial plains, the older, higher alluvium that lies above the current flood limits is known as 'Bangar'. In Rajasthan, the younger alluvium (Khadar) is most prominently cut into deep ravines along which river?
(A) Luni
(B) Sabarmati
(C) Ghaggar
(D) Chambal

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80. How does the rugged terrain of the Southern Aravalli region predominantly influence the local rural settlement patterns?
(A) It encourages highly nucleated, compact villages arranged in rigid grid-iron architectural patterns.
(B) It results in purely linear ribbon settlements established exclusively along major state highways.
(C) It leads to dispersed settlements ('Phala' or 'Dhani') along slopes and valleys.

(D) It prevents permanent human habitation, forcing local communities into a fully nomadic lifestyle.

81. Consider the following statements about the Ghaggar Plain:
I. It is formed by the alluvial and aeolian deposits of the ancient Saraswati/Drisadvati river system.
II. The bed of the Ghaggar river in this region is locally known as 'Nali'.
III. The plain is completely devoid of any agricultural activity due to massive rocky outcrops.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) II and III only
(B) I and II only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

82. In traditional water harvesting systems of Western Rajasthan, the term 'Agor' or 'Paytan' refers to:
(A) The central deep extraction well from which stored water is manually drawn.
(B) The intricate, ornamental architectural stone carvings adornment on stepwells.
(C) A traditional wooden mechanical device used to lift water for crop irrigation.
(D) The catchment area designed to collect surface runoff into the structure.

83. The main backbone of the Aravalli Range, particularly the prominent ridges forming the peaks in the northern and central sections, is predominantly composed of rocks belonging to the:
(A) Delhi Supergroup rocks
(B) Malani Igneous Suite formations
(C) Vindhyan Supergroup sedimentary rocks
(D) Marwar Supergroup sedimentary deposits

84. Identify the odd one out among the following sub-regions commonly used to classify the Western Sandy Plain of Rajasthan.
(A) Marusthali
(B) Godwar Tract
(C) Merwara Tract
(D) Shekhawati Region

85. Sand dunes that form parallel to the prevailing wind direction, typically long and narrow with a single slip face, are known in desert geomorphology as:
(A) Seif dunes
(B) Transverse sand dunes
(C) Crescent Barchan dunes
(D) Multi-pointed Star dunes

86. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The geographical belt stretching between Nagaur and Ajmer is locally referred to as the 'Banka Patti' (Hunchback belt).
Reason (R): The groundwater in this specific region contains abnormally high levels of fluoride, causing skeletal fluorosis in the population.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

87. Consider the following statements regarding the Eastern Plains of Rajasthan:
I. They cover approximately 23.3% of the state's geographical area.
II. They are primarily formed by the depositional work of rivers like the Banas, Chambal, and Mahi.
III. The region is home to the Chappan Basin in its southern extremity.
IV. It supports nearly 39% of the state's population due to fertile soils.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, II, III and IV
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, III and IV only

88. Mount Abu, structurally distinct from the main folded ridges of the Aravalli Range, is considered a massive geological batholith. What is its primary rock composition?
(A) Sandstone
(B) Limestone
(C) Granite
(D) Basalt

89. Which of the following major rivers of Rajasthan does NOT have its origin within the Aravalli hills?
(A) Luni
(B) Banas
(C) Sabarmati

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(D) Ghaggar

90. The overall structural foundation of Rajasthan, excluding the western sandy deposits and some eastern alluvium, is fundamentally considered a northwestern extension of which major Indian physiographic division?
(A) The Peninsular Plateau
(B) The Himalayan Mountain System
(C) The Great Northern Plains Region
(D) The Coastal Plains of India

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(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

62. Which of the following is NOT recognized as a sub-division of the Eastern Plains of Rajasthan?
(A) Banas Basin
(B) Chappan Basin (Mahi)
(C) Godwar Tract
(D) Chambal Basin

63. Despite the highest peak reaching 1722 meters, what is considered the approximate average elevation of the Aravalli mountain range in Rajasthan?
(A) 600 meters
(B) 930 meters
(C) 1220 meters
(D) 1500 meters

64. The traditional pasture lands characterized by scrub vegetation found extensively in the Shekhawati region are locally termed as:
(A) Bhind
(B) Khadin
(C) Beed
(D) Johad

65. The 'Kanthal' region, known for its distinct geographical and cultural identity, is situated along the banks of which river in southern Rajasthan?
(A) Som
(B) Mahi
(C) Jakham
(D) Anas

66. Consider the following characteristics regarding the South-Eastern Plateau (Hadoti):
I. It is geologically considered a northwestern extension of the Malwa Plateau.
II. It encompasses the Mukundara hills and half-moon shaped ridges.
III. It constitutes approximately 23.3% of the state's total area.
IV. It is principally drained by the Chambal river and its tributaries.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) II, III and IV only
(B) I, III and IV only
(C) I, II and III only
(D) I, II and IV only

67. The hairpin-shaped sand dunes formed by the accumulation of sand behind vegetation obstacles, which are the most widespread dune type across the Thar desert, are known as:
(A) Parabolic dunes
(B) Transverse dunes
(C) Longitudinal dunes
(D) Star dunes

68. What is the primary geomorphological reason for the prevalence of inland drainage systems in the Shekhawati region?
(A) The region is completely surrounded by continuous high Aravalli ranges that block any seasonal river from flowing outward to the sea.
(B) Extremely high surface temperatures and low relative humidity cause immediate evaporation of all precipitation before runoff forms.
(C) The presence of an impervious subsurface calcrete layer forces brief seasonal surface flow that quickly terminates in sandy soil.
(D) Recent tectonic upliftment has significantly tilted the regional topography inward, forming a closed interior drainage depression.

69. In the context of Rajasthan's hilly topography, what does the term 'Naal' signify?
(A) A narrow mountain pass or gorge traversing the Aravalli range.
(B) A prominent cascading waterfall formed along rivers in the Hadoti region.
(C) A deep stepwell or traditional water reservoir excavated in the desert.
(D) An elevated, flat-topped tableland or mesa in the plateau region.

70. The geological junction where the Aravalli Range roughly intersects with the Vindhyan Range in Rajasthan is located near:
(A) Mount Abu region situated in Sirohi district
(B) Kumbhalgarh region situated in Rajsamand district
(C) Jhalawar area in south-eastern Hadoti region
(D) Ranthambore area in Sawai Madhopur district

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71. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below.
List I: (Plateau)
P. Odiya Plateau
Q. Bhorat Plateau
R. Mesa Plateau

The extensive ravines create dense riverine gorges that hinder regular agricultural activities across Dholpur, Karauli, and Sawai Madhopur.

11. (B) It is a major underground geological aquifer in the desert region.
The Lathi Series is a prominent geological formation situated between Pokhran and Jaisalmer. Composed of Mesozoic Jurassic sandstones, it forms a vast, sweet-water underground aquifer belt in the desert. It supports rich perennial grasses like Sevan and provides a reliable, high-yield water supply essential for regional rural livelihoods and livestock farming.

12. (B) I and II only
Barchans are crescent-shaped, highly mobile sand dunes created by unidirectional wind action in arid environments. They are widely distributed in the Shekhawati region, Churu, and parts of Jaisalmer. Due to their constant movement and instability, they actively advance desertification rather than stabilizing dune systems, making third statement factually inaccurate.

13. (A) Bhorat Plateau
The Bhorat Plateau is a prominent elevated tableland situated in the Southern Aravalli hills, bounded geographically between Kumbhalgarh in Rajsamand district and Gogunda in Udaipur district. Positioned at an average elevation of around 1220 meters, it forms an important watershed separating the drainage networks flowing towards the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal.

14. (C) Khadin
Barchan, Seif, and Parabolic represent distinct types of aeolian sand dunes formed by wind deposition in desert environments. Conversely, Khadin is an artificial rainwater harvesting and agricultural conservation structure developed by Paliwal Brahmins in low-lying depressions of Jaisalmer, making it an anthropogenic land-use feature rather than a natural depositional dune structure.

15. (D) Guru Shikhar, Ser, Dilwara, Jarga
The elevation hierarchy of prominent Aravalli mountain peaks places Guru Shikhar at the top with 1722 meters, followed by Ser at 1597 meters, Dilwara at 1442 meters, and Jarga at 1431 meters. All four peaks represent the highest summits in Rajasthan, with Guru Shikhar, Ser, and Dilwara located in Sirohi district.

16. (C) South-Eastern Hadoti Plateau
Among the four primary physical divisions of Rajasthan, the South-Eastern Hadoti Plateau occupies the smallest spatial area, covering approximately 6.89% of the state's total geographical surface. In contrast, the Western Sandy Plain covers 61.11%, the Eastern Agricultural Plains account for 23.3%, and the Central Aravalli Hilly Region comprises roughly 9%.

17. (B) It constitutes a major part of the Luni River basin in Southern Rajasthan.
The Ghaggar Plain is located in northernmost Rajasthan across Sri Ganganagar and Hanumangarh districts, formed by alluvium from the seasonal Ghaggar river system. It has no connection to the Luni River basin, which operates independently in southwestern Rajasthan. The channel of the Ghaggar in this northern area is locally called Nali.

18. (B) 50 cm isohyet
The 50 cm rainfall line, or isohyet, runs almost parallel to the Aravalli Range, dividing Rajasthan into two distinct climatic and geographic zones. The area lying to the west receives under 50 cm of annual rainfall, defining arid and semi-arid conditions, whereas the eastern region receives over 50 cm, fostering sub-humid environments.

19. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
Western Rajasthan experiences low annual rainfall during the southwest monsoon because the Aravalli Range lies parallel to the incoming Arabian Sea branch, allowing moisture-laden winds to pass without orographic resistance. Simultaneously, the Bay of Bengal branch loses most moisture before reaching the west, directly causing hyper-arid desert conditions across the region.

20. (B) 550 km
The total length of the ancient Aravalli fold mountain system stretches approximately 692 kilometers from Gujarat to Delhi. Out of this total span, roughly 550 kilometers lies within the state boundaries of Rajasthan, extending from Khedbrahma in the southwest to Khetri in the

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the southwestern semi-arid region drained by the Luni River, placing it squarely within the Western Sandy Plain division.

63. (B) 930 meters
Even though individual peaks within the Southern Aravalli section reach substantial heights, such as Guru Shikhar at 1722 meters, the overall average elevation of the entire Aravalli mountain range across Rajasthan is recorded at approximately 930 meters above mean sea level, reflecting its heavily eroded relict fold mountain structure.

64. (C) Beed
In the local vernacular of the Shekhawati region, traditional grassland pastures and common grazing lands containing sparse scrub vegetation are referred to as Beed. These natural pasture enclosures serve as essential fodder reserves for sheep, goats, and cattle, helping sustain rural pastoral livelihoods across the semi-arid districts of Jhunjhunu, Sikar, and Churu.

65. (B) Mahi
The Kanthal region refers to the riparian coastal plain situated along the banks of the Mahi River, predominantly encompassing the Pratapgarh district in southern Rajasthan. Because Pratapgarh lies along the boundary bank or border of the Mahi River, the surrounding fertile alluvial basin earned its historical local name of Kanthal.

66. (D) I, II and IV only
The South-Eastern Hadoti Plateau represents a geological extension of the Malwa Plateau, features Mukundara hill ridges, and is drained by the Chambal river system. However, it covers approximately 6.89% of Rajasthan's total geographical area rather than 23.3%, which represents the Eastern Plains' share, making the third statement completely false.

67. (A) Parabolic dunes
Parabolic dunes are hairpin-shaped, semi-stabilized sand structures formed when wind deposits sand around desert vegetation patches or shrubs. Characterized by U-shaped trailing arms pointing upwind, parabolic dunes constitute the most widespread and dominant sand dune classification found across the Thar Desert, occurring abundantly in nearly all desert districts.

68. (C) The presence of an impervious subsurface calcrete layer forces brief seasonal surface flow that quickly terminates in sandy soil.
The Shekhawati region exhibits an internal or endorheic drainage pattern primarily due to subsurface geological structures. An impervious layer of calcrete or kankar hardpan lies close beneath the permeable sandy topsoil. Seasonal rainfall creates brief surface streams like the Kantli River that flow briefly before sinking completely into porous desert sands.

69. (A) A narrow mountain pass or gorge traversing the Aravalli range.
In the local dialect of Rajasthan, the term Naal denotes a narrow pass, gap, or natural gorge cutting through the Aravalli mountain ridges. These physical mountain passes, such as Desuri ki Naal and Someshwar ki Naal, historically served as critical trade, communication, and military transit routes connecting Mewar and Marwar regions.

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70. (D) Ranthambore area in Sawai Madhopur district
The geological intersection between the ancient folded Aravalli mountain system and the Vindhyan sedimentary plateau occurs near the Ranthambore region in Sawai Madhopur district. Here, structural faulting associated with the Great Boundary Fault brings quartzites and schists of the Aravallis into direct contact with Vindhyan sandstones and limestones.

71. (B) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
The Odiya Plateau is located in Sirohi district near Mount Abu. The Bhorat Plateau lies between Rajsamand and Udaipur districts. The Mesa Plateau is situated in Chittorgarh district, holding the historic fort. The Uparmal Plateau forms an elevated tableland stretching between Bijolia in Bhilwara district and Bhainsrorgarh in Chittorgarh district.

72. (C) Nakki Lake
Sambhar, Didwana, and Pachpadra are inland saline lakes formed within desert depressions, containing high concentrations of sodium chloride and dissolved salts. In contrast, Nakki Lake, located at Mount Abu, is a natural freshwater lake often described as a volcanic crater or tectonic fault basin, making it distinctly different from the saline playa lakes.

that extended into the southeastern region. These rock suites dominate the Hadoti Plateau, particularly across Jhalawar, Baran, and Kota districts. Weathering of these dark basaltic rocks has generated fertile, moisture-retentive black soils classified taxonomically as Vertisols across the region.

32. (C) 1, 2, 3, 4
Rajasthan's four major physical divisions, arranged in descending order by spatial area, begin with the Western Sandy Plain covering roughly 61.11% of the state. The Eastern Agricultural Plains follow with approximately 23.3%, the Aravalli Hilly Region accounts for around 9%, and the South-Eastern Hadoti Plateau covers the smallest share at nearly 6.89%.

33. (B) 25 cm isohyet
The 25 cm annual rainfall line acts as the internal boundary dividing the Western Sandy Plain into two sub-divisions. The zone lying west of this line receives under 25 cm of precipitation, forming the hyper-arid Marusthali, while the area between 25 cm and 50 cm isohyets constitutes the semi-arid Rajasthan Bangar.

34. (D) It functions as a physical barrier against the eastward expansion of Thar desert.
The Aravalli Range plays a crucial ecological role by serving as a natural physical barrier that halts the eastward migration of sand dunes from the Thar Desert into the fertile agricultural plains of eastern Rajasthan and North India. Maintaining its forest cover prevents soil erosion and inhibits desert encroachment through mountain gaps.

35. (A) III only
Marusthali forms the core desert region of Western Rajasthan, characterized by hyper-arid climatic conditions, dune fields, and extreme temperature variations. Rainwater is minimal, and the region lacks perennial rivers or broadleaf forests, making the third statement completely false while the first two accurately describe the region's harsh physical landforms.

36. (B) 1360 meters
The Odiya Plateau, situated in the Mount Abu region of Sirohi district, is the highest elevated tableland in Rajasthan. Standing at an elevation of approximately 1360 meters above mean sea level, it sits directly below Guru Shikhar peak. The second highest tableland in the state is the Bhorat Plateau at 1220 meters.

37. (A) Drumlin
Longitudinal, Parabolic, and Barchan dunes are classic aeolian landforms generated by wind action across the Thar Desert of Rajasthan. Conversely, a drumlin is an elongated hill of glacial till formed beneath moving ice sheets in glaciated environments, making it entirely absent from the warm desert geomorphology of Western Rajasthan.

38. (D) Piedmont Plain
A piedmont plain in the Aravalli landscape refers to an isolated, gently undulating erosional plain located at the base of hill slopes, notably near Devgarh in the Banas River basin. Characterized by residual rock knobs and pediments, this dissected plain feature is locally referred to as the Devgarh or Chappan piedmont.

39. (B) A barren, rocky, and stone-paved desert plain clear of sand.
In arid desert geomorphology, a Hamada is a barren, rocky desert landscape where high winds have removed fine sand, leaving behind exposed bedrock and coarse gravel surface pavements. Found prominently around Jaisalmer, Barmer, and Jodhpur, Hamada stands in contrast to erg deserts that are completely covered by mobile sand dune ridges.

40. (C) Sedimentary Sandstone and Limestone
The Vindhyan scarplands occupying the South-Eastern Plateau and eastern borders of Rajasthan are primarily composed of horizontally bedded sedimentary rocks. These formations feature thick layers of durable sandstone, limestone, and shale, which form prominent flat-topped mesas, steep escarpments, and valuable stone quarries around Dholpur, Karauli, Kota, and Chittorgarh.

41. (D) The sandy soil and low moisture retention favor drought-resistant crops like Bajra (Pearl Millet).
The desert terrain of Western Rajasthan consists of loose sandy soil with high permeability, low organic content, and rapid percolation rates. Combined with erratic rainfall under 40 cm annually, these physical conditions restrict traditional agriculture, favoring drought-resistant, quick-maturing kharif crops such as

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northeast, comprising nearly 80% of the entire mountain range.

21. (A) Khadin
Khadin is a traditional runoff farming technique created in Jaisalmer by Paliwal Brahmins during the fifteenth century. Rainwater collects in low-lying depressions between sand dunes behind an earthen embankment. Once the water saturates the soil and evaporates, residual soil moisture is utilized to cultivate rabi crops like wheat and chickpea without irrigation.

22. (D) I, III and IV
The Aravalli Range is a relict mountain system formed during the Precambrian Era, composed mainly of metamorphic rocks like quartzites, schists, and granites, making the sedimentary rock claim inaccurate. Historically, its continuous physical elevation created a effective barrier that blocked shifting sands and halted the eastward expansion of the Thar Desert.

23. (B) The saucer-shaped sequence of hills surrounding Udaipur city.
In the local geography of Rajasthan, Girwa refers to the ring of saucer-shaped, steep-sided hills encircling the Udaipur basin. This unique amphitheater-like topography surrounds Udaipur city, facilitating the natural accumulation of surface water into famous regional lakes such as Lake Pichola, Fatehsagar, and Swaroop Sagar through concentrated drainage channels.

24. (C) Taragarh
Taragarh, situated in Ajmer district at an elevation of approximately 870 meters, serves as a prominent summit within the Central Aravalli section. While peaks like Raghunathgarh belong to the Northern Aravallis and Achalgarh to the Southern Aravallis, Taragarh and Goramghat represent the principal relief features defining the central hilly corridor.

25. (D) Dausa
The South-Eastern Plateau, known as Hadoti, consists of four primary contiguous districts: Kota, Bundi, Baran, and Jhalawar. Dausa district is situated in the northeastern part of Rajasthan and forms part of the Eastern Agricultural Plains division, possessing alluvial soils rather than the basaltic volcanic lava formations typical of Hadoti.

26. (A) Bundi and Sawai Madhopur
The Great Boundary Fault of Rajasthan is a major structural tectonic dislocation zone where the ancient folded Aravalli mountain system meets the Vindhyan sedimentary plateau. This fault line extends along a distinct trend through the districts of Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, and Karauli, running prominently parallel to the hills of Bundi.

27. (B) Uparmal
Uparmal is the regional name for the elevated plateau tract stretching from Bijolia in Bhilwara district to Bhainsrorgarh in Chittorgarh district. Geologically, this high tableland forms a western continuation of the Vindhyan Plateau, featuring sandstone ridges, step terracing, and rocky surfaces that support moderate scrub forest and localized quarrying operations.

28. (B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
Godwar represents the semi-arid Luni River basin in southwestern Rajasthan. Thali refers to the elevated, dry desert plain spanning Bikaner and Churu districts. Nali signifies the narrow riverbed of the seasonal Ghaggar River in the north. Beed describes the local rotational grazing pastures and scrub lands found across the Shekhawati tract.

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29. (A) Structural depression created by tectonic faulting in Aravallis.
Sambhar Salt Lake, located near the junction of Jaipur, Nagaur, and Ajmer districts, formed in a structural tectonic depression along major fault lines within the Aravalli basement rocks. Surface streams collect rain and dissolved mineral salts from surrounding schists into this endorheic basin, where intense evaporation leaves behind extensive saline brine deposits.

30. (C) Luni Basin
The Eastern Plains of Rajasthan are structurally divided into three sub-regions: the Chappan Basin (Mahi Basin) in the south, the Banas-Banganga Basin in the center, and the Chambal Basin in the east. The Luni Basin belongs entirely to the semi-arid Western Sandy Plain (Rajasthan Bangar), draining westwards toward the Rann of Kutch.

31. (D) Kota, Jhalawar, and Baran
The Deccan Trap formations in Rajasthan represent Cretaceous volcanic basaltic lava flows

and rhyolitic formations in Western Rajasthan. The Bhilwara Supergroup represents Archean basement metamorphic rock units. The Vindhyan System consists of horizontal sedimentary sandstones and limestones deposited in southeastern districts.

53. (A) Wind erosion carrying sand through gaps in Aravallis like the Sambhar gap.
The expansion of desertification toward eastern Rajasthan occurs through wind-driven sand migration passing through physical gaps in the eroded Aravalli Range. Key gaps such as the Sambhar Gap allow strong westerly winds during dry seasons to carry loose sand, depositing dunes across fertile agricultural lands in Jaipur, Ajmer, and Alwar.

54. (D) Lignite Coal (Eastern Plains)
Rajasthan's mineral distribution directly mirrors its physiographic divisions. Metallic minerals like copper, lead, and zinc are concentrated in metamorphic rocks of the Aravalli range. Gypsum and lignite coal reserves occur in Tertiary sedimentary basins of the Western Sandy Plain, not the Eastern Plains, making lignite association with Eastern Plains incorrect.

55. (B) 1, 2, 3, 4
Ordering these prominent Aravalli mountain peaks geographically from north to south begins with Raghunathgarh in Sikar district, followed southward by Taragarh in central Ajmer district. Continuing further south along the mountain chain leads to Kumbhalgarh located in Rajsamand district, and finally reaches Guru Shikhar, situated near Mount Abu in southernmost Sirohi.

56. (B) 40%
Although the Western Sandy Plain represents a hot desert region, it is recognized globally as the most densely populated desert worldwide. While covering roughly 61.11% of Rajasthan's total geographical expanse, it sustains approximately 40% of the state's human population, supported by canal irrigation projects and groundwater extraction despite severe climatic constraints.

57. (D) Banas Basin
The Kherad region represents an undulating, dissected plain area located primarily within Bhilwara and Tonk districts. It forms an integral part of the Banas River basin, where tributary streams like the Khari and Jahazpur drainage channels have carved out an uneven, rugged erosional surface characterized by shallow soils and exposed rock basement.

58. (A) I and II only
The Luni River basin, located in southwestern Rajasthan, is traditionally designated as the Godwar tract. It features loamy alluvial soils along seasonal stream valleys that support local farming. However, it drains westward toward the Rann of Kutch and has no hydrological connection to the Hadoti Plateau, rendering the third statement factually incorrect.

59. (B) Aridisols
Under the USDA soil taxonomy classification, Aridisols comprise the primary soil order found across the dry, arid, and semi-arid tracts of the Western Sandy Plain. Characterized by low organic matter content, high calcium carbonate accumulations, and mineral-rich sandy loam textures, these dry soils exhibit low moisture retention capacity under desert conditions.

60. (B) Crescent Barchan dunes
Crescent-shaped Barchan dunes are active, highly mobile sand dunes created by strong wind action in hyper-arid zones. Because they continuously migrate across agricultural fields, roads, and residential settlements, they represent the single most active agent of desert expansion, posing significant environmental and structural hazards to rural infrastructure across Western Rajasthan.

61. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
The Hadoti Plateau has established itself as a leading agricultural zone for high-value cash crops such as soybean, garlic, and coriander. This agricultural success is directly attributable to its fertile black clay soils, taxonomically termed Vertisols, which originate from weathered basaltic lava flows and retain moisture effectively throughout growing seasons.

62. (C) Godwar Tract
The Eastern Plains division of Rajasthan is geographically structured into three main river sub-basins: the Banas-Banganga Basin, the Chambal Basin, and the Chappan (Mahi) Basin. The Godwar Tract refers specifically to

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belonging to the Proterozoic Delhi Supergroup. Composed mainly of hard, weather-resistant quartzites, schists, and calc-silicates, these folded rock formations form the resistant topographical backbone across northern Rajasthan districts.

84. (C) Merwara Tract
Marusthali, the Godwar Tract, and the Shekhawati Region are all recognized sub-divisions forming part of the Western Sandy Plain division of Rajasthan. In contrast, the Merwara Tract refers to the central hilly section of the Aravalli Range located around Ajmer district, placing it in the Central Aravalli physical division.

85. (A) Seif dunes
Seif dunes are elongated, linear sand ridges that develop parallel to the prevailing wind direction in arid regions. Featuring a single prominent slip face along one side, these narrow dunes extend longitudinally across open desert terrain, forming continuous parallel sand chains widely distributed throughout the deep Thar Desert region.

86. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
The geographical belt spanning Nagaur and Ajmer districts is locally known as Banka Patti, meaning Hunchback Belt. This designation stems directly from severe skeletal deformities and spinal bending prevalent among local inhabitants, caused by lifelong consumption of groundwater contaminated with abnormally high concentrations of naturally occurring fluoride ions.

87. (B) I, II, III and IV
The Eastern Plains division accounts for approximately 23.3% of Rajasthan's total geographical area and hosts nearly 39% of its total population. Formed by river deposition from the Banas, Chambal, and Mahi systems, it contains the fertile Chappan Basin in the south, supporting dense agricultural settlements and high population density.

88. (C) Granite
Mount Abu represents a prominent geological feature in southwestern Rajasthan, structurally formed as a massive granitic intrusive batholith. Unlike surrounding folded metamorphic schist ridges of the Aravalli system, the Mount Abu block consists predominantly of coarse-grained intrusive granite rocks that have resisted weathering, standing elevated as a high relief plateau.

89. (D) Ghaggar
The Luni, Banas, and Sabarmati rivers all originate within various sections of the Aravalli hills in Rajasthan. Conversely, the Ghaggar River originates outside the state in the Shivalik Hills of Himachal Pradesh. It flows southwestward through Punjab and Haryana before entering northern Rajasthan as a seasonal stream near Hanumangarh.

90. (A) The Peninsular Plateau
Underneath superficial quaternary desert sands and recent river alluvium, the underlying basement structure of Rajasthan is geologically a direct northwestern extension of the Peninsular Plateau of India. Archaean and Proterozoic basement complexes, including the Bhilwara Supergroup and Aravalli fold belts, anchor the state structurally to the ancient Peninsular shield.

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73. (D) Johad
A Johad is a traditional community-managed rainwater harvesting structure widely constructed across the semi-arid Shekhawati region. It consists of a simple earthen check dam built across natural slope contours to collect monsoon runoff. Stored water recharges localized groundwater aquifers, raises surrounding water tables, and provides drinking water for domestic livestock.

74. (A) Bhilwara Supergroup, Aravalli Supergroup, Delhi Supergroup, Vindhyan System
Geologically, the rock formations of Rajasthan follow a clear chronological sequence from oldest to youngest. The Archean Bhilwara Supergroup represents the foundational basement rocks, succeeded by the Paleoproterozoic Aravalli Supergroup. Next came the Mesoproterozoic Delhi Supergroup fold belts, followed finally by the Neoproterozoic sedimentary deposits comprising the Vindhyan System.

75. (B) Marine sedimentary basins formed by Tethys Sea remnants during the Tertiary period.
Significant petroleum and natural gas deposits in Western Rajasthan developed within thick sedimentary basins formed during marine transgressions of the ancient Tethys Sea. Organic matter deposited in shallow marine environments during Mesozoic and Tertiary periods underwent thermal maturation within sandstone formations, creating hydrocarbon reservoirs now tapped in Barmer and Jaisalmer.

76. (B) Barchan
Inselbergs, yardangs, and zeugens are wind-driven erosional landforms created when abrasive wind action carves exposed rock formations in arid environments. Conversely, a Barchan is an aeolian depositional feature, specifically a crescent-shaped mobile sand dune created by wind accumulation rather than rock erosion, making it distinct from the other landforms.

77. (A) Pediment
In arid and semi-arid geomorphology, a pediment is a broad, gently sloping bedrock surface situated at the foot of a receding mountain front. Formed through continuous lateral slope retreat and running water sheet wash erosion, pediments connect mountain bases to lower alluvial depositional plains known as bajadas within desert landscapes.

78. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
The Banas River Basin sustains dense rural agricultural settlements owing to its gentle terrain, fertile alluvial soils, and well-developed water resources. The claim describing the basin as rugged, highly mountainous terrain covered with dense broadleaf forests is factually false, as those features characterize parts of the Southern Aravalli hills instead.

79. (D) Chambal
While older river alluvium sitting above flood plains is classified as Bangar, younger flood plain alluvium is termed Khadar. Along the Chambal River in eastern Rajasthan, intense water runoff cuts deep into these alluvial Khadar deposits, creating extensive networks of steep ravines and gully erosion known locally as Utkhat badlands.

80. (C) It leads to dispersed settlements (‘Phala’ or ‘Dhani’) along slopes and valleys.
The rugged, dissected topography and fragmented agricultural land of the Southern Aravalli region strongly influence human settlement patterns. Instead of compact villages, rural populations reside in dispersed hamlets known locally as Phala or Dhani. Homesteads are scattered across isolated hill slopes, valley bottoms, and stream margins near cultivable farm patches.

81. (B) I and II only
The Ghaggar Plain was created by river alluvium from the ancient Saraswati system, and its seasonal riverbed is locally termed Nali. Rather than being a barren rocky wasteland, extensive canal networks like the Indira Gandhi Canal have transformed this fertile alluvial plain into a major agricultural hub in northern Rajasthan.

82. (D) The catchment area designed to collect surface runoff into the structure.
In traditional rainwater harvesting architecture of Western Rajasthan, Agor or Paytan refers specifically to the prepared catchment area surrounding a water storage structure like a Tanka or Bawari. This sloped, cleaned catchment surface maximizes monsoon runoff collection, channeling rainwater directly into underground storage cisterns without soil contamination.

83. (A) Delhi Supergroup rocks
The primary ridge structure and high mountain peaks of the northern and central Aravalli Range are constructed predominantly from rocks

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Bajra, moth beans, and sesame that thrive in dry environments.

42. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
The Eastern Plains contain the highest population density in Rajasthan, accommodating nearly 39% of the state's population on 23.3% of its land. This concentration stems directly from rich alluvial soils deposited by the Banas, Chambal, and Mahi river systems, coupled with favorable topography, ground water access, and high agricultural productivity.

43. (B) Mukundara Pass
Desuri ki Naal, Someshwar ki Naal, and Hathiguda ki Naal are prominent mountain passes traversing the Aravalli Range in Pali and Rajsamand districts. In contrast, Mukundara Pass is a natural gap located in the Mukundara Hills of the Hadoti Plateau near Kota, forming part of the Vindhyan hill system rather than Aravalli.

44. (B) Jaisamand Lake
The Lasadiya Plateau is an extensively dissected, rugged, and deeply eroded plateau surface situated directly east of Jaisamand Lake in Udaipur district. Its terrain consists of sharp, irregular hillocks and steep gullies carved by water runoff, presenting an uneven topography that separates the lake catchment from adjacent eastern plains.

45. (A) Mesa Plateau
The historical Chittorgarh Fort stands atop the flat-topped Mesa Plateau, located in Chittorgarh district at an elevation of approximately 620 meters above sea level. This steep-sided flat tableland provides natural defense capabilities, having been carved out of Vindhyan sedimentary rock formations bounded by the Gambhiri and Berach rivers.

46. (B) Tertiary and Mesozoic
The rich hydrocarbon deposits discovered in the Barmer-Sanchore and Jaisalmer basins belong to Mesozoic and Tertiary sedimentary formations. Microscopic marine organic deposits accumulated in shallow Tethys coastal waters during Cretaceous and Eocene epochs, undergoing anaerobic thermal alteration over geological timescales to generate petroleum reserves in sandstone reservoir rocks.

47. (D) Saline depressions or desert Playa lakes
In the desert terminology of Western Rajasthan, terms like Thob, Bap, Pachpadra, Didwana, and Pokhran denote temporary saline depressions or playa lakes. During monsoon brief runoff, water collects in these shallow impermeable basins, subsequently evaporating under dry desert conditions to form thick salt crusts utilized for commercial sodium production.

48. (C) I, II, III and IV
The Rajasthan Bangar represents the semi-arid transition zone between the hyper-arid Marusthali and the Aravalli Range. It is structurally divided into four distinct sub-regions: the Luni Basin in the southwest, the Nagaur Uplands in the center, the Shekhawati Inland Drainage Region in the northeast, and the Ghaggar Plain in the north.

49. (B) Raghunathgarh
Raghunathgarh, reaching an elevation of 1055 meters, is situated in Sikar district and serves as the highest summit of the Northern Aravalli region. In contrast, peaks like Jarga in Udaipur, Achalgarh in Sirohi, and Delwara in Sirohi are all located within the Southern Aravalli division of the state.

50. (D) South-Eastern Hadoti Plateau
According to USDA Soil Taxonomy, Vertisols are clay-rich, dark soils that swell when wet and shrink to form deep cracks when dry. In Rajasthan, Vertisols dominate the South-Eastern Hadoti Plateau, having formed through weathering of basaltic volcanic lava deposits across Kota, Jhalawar, Baran, and Bundi districts.

51. (A) Inland salt lakes and a fluoride-rich groundwater belt
The Nagaur Uplands represent a semi-arid, high-elevation plain in central Rajasthan recognized for numerous inland saline lakes like Didwana, Kuchaman, and Degana. The region is also famous for an underlying groundwater belt containing high fluoride concentrations, which causes skeletal fluorosis among local populations, giving rise to the name Banka Patti.

52. (C) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
The Lathi Series forms a continuous sweet groundwater aquifer in Jaisalmer. The Malani Igneous Suite comprises Precambrian granitic

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CHAPTER 12
Climate of Rajasthan

1. The latitudinal and longitudinal extent of Rajasthan has a significant impact on its climate. Which of the following statements correctly describes the latitudinal position of Rajasthan in relation to the Tropic of Cancer?
(A) The Tropic of Cancer passes through the northernmost districts, making the whole state tropical.
(B) The Tropic of Cancer passes through the southern districts of Banswara and Dungarpur, placing most of the state in the sub-tropical zone.
(C) The Tropic of Cancer divides Rajasthan into two equal halves, ensuring a uniform tropical climate.
(D) Rajasthan lies entirely to the south of the Tropic of Cancer, resulting in a strictly equatorial climate.

2. Consider the following factors regarding the climate of Rajasthan:
I. Distance from the sea
II. Direction and alignment of the Aravalli mountains
III. Cold ocean currents in the Arabian Sea
Which of the given combinations of factors correctly represents those that directly influence the climate of Rajasthan?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

3. Despite being geographically closer to the Arabian Sea compared to the Bay of Bengal, Rajasthan receives less rainfall from the Arabian Sea branch of the monsoon. What is the primary conceptual reason for this?
(A) The Aravalli Range is aligned parallel to the direction of the Arabian Sea monsoon winds, failing to act as an orographic barrier.
(B) The Arabian Sea branch is completely blocked by the Western Ghats before reaching Rajasthan.
(C) The extreme heat of the Thar desert evaporates the moisture of the Arabian Sea branch instantly.
(D) The Arabian Sea branch only carries dry winds during the monsoon season.

4. Match the climatic regions of Rajasthan according to Koppen's classification in List I with their representative districts in List II:
List I: (Climatic Region)
P. Aw
Q. BShw
R. BWhw
S. Cwg
List II: (Representative District)
1. Banswara
2. Jaisalmer
3. Nagaur
4. Tonk
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

5. In Thornthwaite's climatic classification of Rajasthan, the 'EA'd' region primarily corresponds to which of the following areas?
(A) The arid western desert
(B) The humid south-eastern plateau
(C) The sub-humid eastern plains
(D) The semi-arid transitional plains

6. According to Trewartha's modification of climatic classification, which region of Rajasthan is designated by the code 'BSh'?
(A) True arid desert region
(B) Sub-humid climatic region
(C) Tropical humid climatic region
(D) Semi-arid / steppe region

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Read the given assertion and reason carefully and choose the correct option.
Assertion (A): Koppen classified the climate of Rajasthan into four major regions: Aw, BShw, BWhw, and Cwg.
Reason (R): Koppen's primary and sole basis for climatic classification was the annual variation in precipitation levels.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

8. Which of the following isohyet lines is generally considered the eastern boundary of the true arid climate region (Desert) in Western Rajasthan, separating it from the semi-arid region?
(A) 10 cm isohyet
(B) 25 cm isohyet
(C) 50 cm isohyet
(D) 75 cm isohyet

9. Consider the following statements regarding the temperature patterns in the arid region of Western Rajasthan:
Statement I: The arid region of Western Rajasthan experiences a very high diurnal range of temperature.
Statement II: The sandy soil of the region rapidly absorbs solar radiation during the day and loses heat quickly through terrestrial radiation at night.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II explains Statement I.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II does not explain Statement I.
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

10. Consider the following characteristics regarding the BWhw climatic region of Rajasthan:
I. It represents a hot desert climate.
II. The average annual rainfall is generally less than 20 cm.
III. The natural vegetation consists predominantly of dense, broad-leaved evergreen trees.
IV. The rate of potential evapotranspiration is extremely high.
Which combination of the above statements is correct?
(A) I, II and III
(B) I, II and IV
(C) II, III and IV
(D) I, III and IV

11. Which of the following districts does NOT fall primarily under the true arid (desert) climate of Rajasthan?
(A) Jaisalmer
(B) Jhalawar
(C) Bikaner
(D) Sri Ganganagar

12. Steppe type vegetation, characterized by short grasses like Lasiurus sindicus (Sewan) and thorny shrubs, is the defining natural vegetation of which climatic region in Rajasthan?
(A) Arid Region
(B) Semi-Arid Region
(C) Sub-Humid Region
(D) Very Humid Region

13. Which of the following is a correct statement regarding the climate of the semi-arid region (BShw) of Rajasthan?
(A) It covers the Luni Basin and Shekhawati region as a transitional zone.
(B) It receives heavy annual rainfall usually exceeding 100 cm across all districts.
(C) It experiences a total absence of winter frost throughout the entire region.
(D) It is defined by dense tropical rainforest vegetation across the landscape.

14. Identify the odd one out among the following districts based on their primary climatic classification (Arid vs Semi-Arid).
(A) Sikar
(B) Jhunjhunu
(C) Jaisalmer
(D) Nagaur

15. Consider the following statements regarding the semi-arid climate region of Rajasthan:
I. It is bordered by the 25 cm isohyet on the west and the 50 cm isohyet on the east.
II. Rain-fed agriculture is practiced, but the region is highly prone to agricultural drought.
III. The region is largely immune to the effects of shifting sand dunes.
Which of the following combinations represents the correct statements?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

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16. What is the standard range of average annual rainfall in the humid climatic region (Eastern and South-Eastern plains) of Rajasthan?
(A) 20 cm to 40 cm
(B) 40 cm to 60 cm
(C) 60 cm to 80 cm
(D) 100 cm to 150 cm

17. Match the climatic regions in List I with their corresponding typical districts in List II:
List I: (Climatic Region)
P. Arid Climate
Q. Semi-Arid Climate
R. Sub-Humid Climate
S. Very Humid Climate
List II: (Typical District)
1. Jaipur
2. Mount Abu
3. Pali
4. Bikaner
(A) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1

18. Read the given assertion and reason carefully and choose the correct option.
Assertion (A): Mount Abu has a distinct 'Very Humid' climate, different from the surrounding regions of Rajasthan.
Reason (R): The high altitude of Mount Abu causes significant orographic lifting of moisture-laden winds, resulting in higher precipitation.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

19. What is the most appropriate primary reason for the relatively higher rainfall in the South-Eastern region (Hadoti plateau) of Rajasthan?
(A) Influence of the Bay of Bengal monsoon branch and regional mountain topography.
(B) Unobstructed atmospheric entry of western disturbances throughout the summer months.
(C) Complete structural absence of the Aravalli range across the southern state territory.
(D) Continuous cyclonic low-pressure depressions originating over the Mediterranean Sea.

20. Consider the following locations in Rajasthan:
I. Banswara
II. Jaipur
III. Sri Ganganagar
Which of the following represents the correct chronological order of the normal onset of the southwest monsoon (earliest to latest)?
(A) I, II, III
(B) III, II, I
(C) I, III, II
(D) II, I, III

21. Which branch of the Indian monsoon system is responsible for the maximum amount of rainfall in Rajasthan?
(A) The Bay of Bengal Branch
(B) The Arabian Sea Branch
(C) The Mediterranean Cyclonic Branch
(D) The Retreating Monsoon Branch

22. Consider the following statements about the monsoon system in Rajasthan:
I. The monsoon normally arrives in Rajasthan by mid-June to early July.
II. The intensity of rainfall generally decreases from South-East to North-West.
III. The retreating monsoon brings heavy rainfall to Western Rajasthan in November.
IV. Variations in monsoon rainfall lead to frequent droughts in the state.
Which combination of the above statements is correct?
(A) I, II and IV
(B) I, II and III
(C) II, III and IV
(D) I, III and IV

23. Why does the Bay of Bengal branch of the monsoon yield significantly less rainfall by the time it reaches Western Rajasthan?
(A) The winds are entirely blocked by the Himalayan ranges and diverted directly towards Central Asia.
(B) The winds lose moisture while traveling across the northern plains before reaching the state.
(C) The high elevated peaks of the Aravalli range block these winds from entering the state borders.
(D) The intense low atmospheric pressure thermal system in Western Rajasthan repels the moist winds.

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annual rainfall across all districts.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true.

41. In the context of long-term climate change, what does the 'shifting of the arid zone boundary' in Rajasthan imply?
(A) The Thar Desert is permanently transforming into a humid forest region due to elevated atmospheric carbon dioxide.
(B) The arid desert zone is shrinking rapidly and receding directly towards the international border line with Pakistan.
(C) A complete state-wide halt and permanent stabilization of all active sand dune movements across the region.
(D) Aridity and desert conditions are expanding eastward into semi-arid and sub-humid districts.

42. Which of the following is NOT an expected negative impact of climate change on the agricultural sector in Rajasthan?
(A) Predictable monsoon onset leading to higher yields in traditional Kharif crops.
(B) Reduction in the overall growing period duration for winter Rabi crops due to warmer seasonal temperatures.
(C) Substantially increased agricultural water requirement for crops driven by higher potential evapotranspiration rates.
(D) Significantly higher incidence of agricultural pests and plant diseases caused by fluctuating temperature and humidity.

43. According to comparative regional data, which district in Rajasthan generally records the highest average annual rainfall?
(A) Bikaner
(B) Jhalawar
(C) Udaipur
(D) Jaipur

44. Consider the following districts in Rajasthan:
I. Jhalawar
II. Banswara
III. Jaipur
IV. Jodhpur
Which of the following represents the correct sequence of districts in descending order of their average annual rainfall?
(A) I, II, III, IV
(B) II, I, III, IV
(C) I, III, II, IV
(D) IV, III, II, I

45. Which of the following districts registers the highest number of rainy days (approx. 40 days) annually in Rajasthan?
(A) Jhalawar
(B) Sirohi
(C) Kota
(D) Banswara

46. Based on long-term climatic data, what is the approximate average annual rainfall received by Jaisalmer district?
(A) 5 - 10 cm
(B) 10 - 15 cm
(C) 25 - 30 cm
(D) 40 - 50 cm

47. In which month does Rajasthan generally experience the highest levels of relative humidity?
(A) May
(B) August
(C) November
(D) January

48. What does the term 'Potential Evapotranspiration (PET)' indicate in the context of Western Rajasthan's climate?
(A) The total actual quantity of surface water evaporated annually from all major open river bodies and lakes.
(B) The critical minimum baseline temperature threshold required for atmospheric evaporation processes to begin.
(C) The maximum water loss via evaporation and transpiration under unlimited water availability.
(D) The total proportion of seasonal rainfall lost permanently due to deep percolation into underground aquifers.

49. Consider the following statements regarding humidity and evaporation in the arid zone of Rajasthan:
Statement I: The actual evaporation rate in Western Rajasthan is lower than the potential evapotranspiration rate because of the lack of available surface moisture.
Statement II: High wind velocity and high temperatures during summer exponentially increase the potential evapotranspiration.

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what percentage of the Long Period Average (LPA)?
(A) 15%
(B) 25%
(C) 50%
(D) 75%

33. Identify the correct pair representing a historically devastating famine in Rajasthan and its corresponding year in the Vikram Samvat calendar.
(A) Sahsa Modsa — Vikram Samvat 2001
(B) Chhappanya Akal — Vikram Samvat 1956
(C) Makadiya Akal — Vikram Samvat 1980
(D) Panchkal — Vikram Samvat 1899

34. Consider the following statements defining types of drought in Rajasthan:
I. Meteorological drought is characterized by a significant deficit in precipitation.
II. Hydrological drought refers to the depletion of surface and sub-surface water resources.
III. Agricultural drought occurs when soil moisture is insufficient to support crop growth.
IV. Socio-economic drought happens only when the per capita income of the state falls.
Which combination contains the correct definitions?
(A) I, II and III
(B) II, III and IV
(C) I, III and IV
(D) I, II and IV

35. Read the given assertion and reason carefully and choose the correct option.
Assertion (A): Western Rajasthan experiences a high frequency of agricultural drought.
Reason (R): High rainfall variability, low water retention capacity of sandy soils, and high evaporation rates severely limit soil moisture during crop seasons.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

36. Approximately what percentage of the total geographical area of Rajasthan is affected by the processes of desertification and land degradation?
(A) 35%
(B) 47%
(C) 67%
(D) 85%

37. Which is considered the most significant anthropogenic (human-induced) cause exacerbating desertification in Western Rajasthan?
(A) Overgrazing by livestock and deforestation
(B) Extensive canal irrigation leading to waterlogging
(C) Industrial pollution from cement factories
(D) Excessive use of organic farming techniques

38. Which of the following statements regarding the processes of desertification in Rajasthan is incorrect?
(A) Wind erosion is the most dominant process of desertification in western Rajasthan.
(B) Water erosion causes significant land degradation in the Chambal basin region.
(C) Salinity and alkalinity issues are mostly associated with the command areas of major irrigation projects like IGNP.
(D) Desertification in Rajasthan is exclusively a natural phenomenon with no human influence.

39. Match the desertification control institutes/ programmes in List I with their establishment year or central location in List II:
List I: (Institute/Programme)
P. CAZRI (Central Arid Zone Research Institute)
Q. AFRI (Arid Forest Research Institute)
R. DPAP (Drought Prone Area Programme)
S. DDP (Desert Development Programme)
List II: (Establishment Year / Location)
1. Launched in 1977-78
2. Launched in 1973-74
3. Located in Jodhpur (est. 1959)
4. Located in Jodhpur (est. 1985)
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

40. Consider the following statements regarding the impact of climate change on Rajasthan:
Statement I: Observational data indicates an increasing frequency of extreme weather events, such as intense heat waves and erratic, heavy rainfall bursts in Rajasthan.
Statement II: Climate change has stabilized the monsoon pattern, resulting in evenly distributed

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87. In the context of long-term water and climate planning in arid Rajasthan, what does the strategy of reducing 'Virtual Water' export mean?
(A) Enforcing a total legal ban on surface water evaporation from major reservoirs using specialized chemical monolayers state-wide.
(B) Discouraging export of water-intensive crops like paddy or sugarcane from dry areas.
(C) Promoting high-resolution digital hydro-geological mapping and real-time monitoring of all subterranean aquifer channels.
(D) Physically exporting surplus bulk water via dedicated railway tankers to adjoining states during high rainfall flood seasons.

88. Which of the following represents a correct statement regarding the micro-climatic impact of the Indira Gandhi Canal Project (IGNP) on Western Rajasthan?
(A) It has completely eradicated the seasonal occurrence of intense pre-monsoon dust storms across all western desert districts.
(B) It has fundamentally and permanently altered the physical alignment and macro-climatic divide of the ancient Aravalli range.
(C) It increased humidity and vegetation locally, but caused waterlogging and soil salinity.
(D) It has induced extreme regional cooling in winter, resulting in regular measurable snowfall events across Bikaner district.

89. Consider the following statements regarding trends observed in Rajasthan's climate based on long-term meteorological observations over the last century:
I. A slight but discernible increase in the mean minimum temperatures.
II. A shifting of rainfall patterns with instances of high-intensity, short-duration rainfall events.
III. A complete cessation of drought events due to climate change.
Which combination of the above statements is correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

90. Which premier research institution, critical for understanding long-term climatic trends, desertification, and developing climate-resilient agriculture for Rajasthan, is headquartered in Jodhpur?
(A) Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI)
(B) Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM)
(C) National Institute of Hydrology (NIH)
(D) Forest Survey of India (FSI)

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Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the reason for Statement I.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but they are independent facts.
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

50. In the climatology of Rajasthan, what is 'Loo'?
(A) A localized intense winter cyclonic depression resulting in severe nocturnal frost across northern plains.
(B) A highly intense localized dust storm occurring without causing any significant changes in ambient temperature.
(C) A traditional rain-fed underground water harvesting structure constructed extensively across rural communities.
(D) A hot, dry westerly wind blowing in summer afternoons.

51. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), what is the basic temperature threshold for declaring a 'heat wave' in the plains of Rajasthan?
(A) When the absolute daily maximum surface temperature recorded at any station reaches a baseline threshold of at least 35°C.
(B) When maximum temperature reaches 40°C with a notable deviation from normal.
(C) When the minimum nocturnal nighttime temperature consistently exceeds a threshold of 30°C across the monitoring district.
(D) When the recorded daily maximum temperature exceeds an extreme threshold of 50°C continuously over a seven-day period.

52. Consider the following statements regarding cold waves and ground frost in Rajasthan:
I. Cold waves are primarily caused by cold winds blowing from the snow-clad Himalayan region after western disturbances pass.
II. Ground frost frequently damages cash crops like mustard and gram in the northern districts.
III. Southern districts like Banswara experience the highest frequency of ground frost in the state.
Which combination of the above statements is correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

53. Which of the following statements correctly identifies the impact of severe cold waves in Rajasthan?
(A) They freeze intra-cellular water, causing cell destruction and frost damage in Rabi crops.
(B) They trigger rapid biological development and accelerated overall growth rates across all seasonal Kharif crops.
(C) They contribute to a significant and rapid rise in subterranean groundwater tables across arid desert districts.
(D) They serve as the primary meteorological trigger for the unusually early regional onset of the southwest monsoon.

54. Which district in Rajasthan experiences the maximum number of dust storms (Aandhi) during the pre-monsoon summer months?
(A) Jaisalmer
(B) Bikaner
(C) Barmer
(D) Sri Ganganagar

55. Conceptually, how does a pre-monsoon dust storm (Aandhi) differ in its immediate local impact compared to a heat wave (Loo) in Rajasthan?
(A) A pre-monsoon dust storm consistently triggers widespread flash flooding, whereas a heat wave causes prolonged regional drought.
(B) A dust storm temporarily drops ambient temperatures, whereas Loo sustains extreme heat.
(C) A pre-monsoon dust storm occurs strictly during winter months, whereas a heat wave manifests exclusively during peak summer.
(D) There is no scientific distinction; both meteorological terms describe the precise same atmospheric weather phenomenon.

56. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: Dust storms in Rajasthan are largely convective phenomena generated by intense local heating and atmospheric instability.
Statement II: They provide slight relief from scorching summer heat due to the temporary blocking of solar radiation and accompanying light downdrafts.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are

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correct, and Statement II is a consequence of Statement I.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but there is no relationship between them.
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

57. Churu frequently records the highest maximum temperatures in summer and the lowest minimum temperatures in winter in the plains of Rajasthan. What is the primary geographical reason for this extreme variation?
(A) Direct geographical proximity to the steep Aravalli ranges which physically trap both extreme summer heat and winter cold.
(B) High localized industrial chemical emissions and pollution acting as a concentrated atmospheric greenhouse gas layer.
(C) Its precise geographical location lying directly upon the Tropic of Cancer, maximizing direct solar insulation year-round.
(D) Sparse vegetation and calcareous sandy soils that rapidly absorb and lose heat.

58. When comparing the mean summer temperature of Mount Abu with that of Phalodi, which principle of climatology best explains the difference?
(A) Normal lapse rate of temperature with altitude.
(B) Distance from the sea or continentality effect.
(C) Seasonal influence of coastal ocean currents.
(D) Differential latitudinal position of stations.

59. Identify the odd one out among the following districts, specifically regarding its typical exemption from extreme winter freezing and cold wave conditions.
(A) Churu
(B) Dungarpur
(C) Sikar
(D) Fatehpur (Sikar)

60. Read the given assertion and reason carefully and choose the correct option.
Assertion (A): Interior districts of Rajasthan like Jodhpur and Bikaner experience an extreme continental type of climate.
Reason (R): They are located far away from the moderating influence of any major water body or sea.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

61. The winter rainfall in Rajasthan, locally known as 'Mawath', is caused by Western Disturbances. Where do these extratropical cyclones originate?
(A) Mediterranean Sea
(B) Arabian Sea
(C) Bay of Bengal
(D) South China Sea

62. Which of the following is the most appropriate statement regarding the agricultural benefit of 'Mawath' in Rajasthan?
(A) It provides essential early moisture needed for the initial summer sowing of Kharif crops like Pearl Millet.
(B) It serves as a necessary seasonal water source for hot summer Zaid crops like watermelon during peak dry months.
(C) It irrigates winter Rabi crops like wheat and gram, known as 'Golden Drops'.
(D) It plays a major chemical role in leaching accumulated excess salts from waterlogged soils across the south.

63. Consider the following characteristics regarding Mawath (Winter rainfall) in Rajasthan:
I. It occurs primarily between December and February.
II. It is highly beneficial for the mustard and wheat crops.
III. It is brought into India by the westerly jet streams.
IV. It accounts for more than 50% of Rajasthan's total annual rainfall.
Which combination of the above statements is correct?
(A) I, II and IV
(B) I, II and III
(C) II, III and IV
(D) I, III and IV

64. Which of the following statements about Western Disturbances (Mawath) in Rajasthan is incorrect?
(A) They routinely bring overcast cloudy weather along with a noticeable drop in diurnal daytime temperatures during winter.

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(B) The total precipitation volume received from Mawath shows a general declining trend from North-West to South-East Rajasthan.
(C) Mawath causes heavy torrential rains and widespread severe flooding.
(D) They originate as shallow mid-latitude cyclonic low-pressure depressions traveling continuously eastward across West Asia.

65. For the purpose of agricultural planning and resource management, into how many agro-climatic zones has Rajasthan been divided?
(A) 5
(B) 10
(C) 15
(D) 20

66. Match the Agro-climatic Zone codes in List I with their descriptive names in List II as defined in Rajasthan:
List I: (Agro-climatic Zone Code)
P. Zone IA
Q. Zone IIA
R. Zone IIIB
S. Zone V
List II: (Descriptive Name)
1. Transitional Plain of Inland Drainage
2. Humid South Eastern Plain
3. Arid Western Plain
4. Flood Prone Eastern Plain
(A) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

67. Which of the following agro-climatic zones covers the largest geographical area in Rajasthan?
(A) Zone IC (Hyper Arid Partial Irrigated Zone)
(B) Zone IA (Arid Western Plain)
(C) Zone IVA (Sub-Humid Southern Plain and Aravalli Hills)
(D) Zone V (Humid South Eastern Plain)

68. Which of the following represents the correct sequence of agro-climatic zones moving from the driest (West) to the wettest (South-East) based on average rainfall?
(A) Arid Western Plain (IA) → Semi-Arid Eastern Plain (IIIA) → Humid South Eastern Plain (V)
(B) Humid South Eastern Plain (V) → Arid Western Plain (IA) → Semi-Arid Eastern Plain (IIIA)
(C) Semi-Arid Eastern Plain (IIIA) → Arid Western Plain (IA) → Humid South Eastern Plain (V)
(D) Arid Western Plain (IA) → Humid South Eastern Plain (V) → Semi-Arid Eastern Plain (IIIA)

69. In the context of climate impact on cropping patterns in semi-arid Rajasthan, what conceptual shift occurs when the monsoon is delayed beyond mid-July?
(A) Farmers shift from Bajra to short-duration pulses like Moong or Moth.
(B) Farmers completely abandon all seasonal Kharif crop cultivation activities and reserve fields strictly for Rabi.
(C) Farmers switch immediately to water-intensive cereal crops like paddy to absorb late seasonal rainfall bursts.
(D) Farmers bypass the monsoon entirely and immediately commence early land preparation for sowing winter wheat.

70. Identify the correct pair matching the climatic region of Rajasthan with its highly suited traditional crops.
(A) Arid Region — Sugarcane and Rice
(B) Humid Region — Pearl Millet (Bajra) and Moth bean
(C) Sub-Humid Region — Tea and Coffee
(D) Semi-Arid Region — Sorghum (Jowar) and Guar

71. Consider the following statements regarding the impact of extreme cold on agriculture in Rajasthan:
Statement I: The occurrence of frost in January heavily damages the mustard and gram crops in northern Rajasthan.
Statement II: Frost causes the sap inside the plant cells to freeze and expand, leading to the bursting of cell walls and death of the plant tissue.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II explains Statement I.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II does not explain Statement I.
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

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24. Which is generally the hottest month in Rajasthan, recording the highest mean maximum temperatures before the onset of the monsoon?
(A) April
(B) May
(C) June
(D) July

25. Which of the following statements regarding winter temperatures in Rajasthan is incorrect?
(A) January is generally the coldest month in the state.
(B) Ground frost is occasionally observed in the sandy tracts of Northern and North-Western Rajasthan.
(C) Cold waves often drop nighttime temperatures near or below freezing point in Churu and Sikar.
(D) The diurnal temperature range in winter remains extremely low across the Thar desert.

26. Read the given assertion and reason carefully and choose the correct option.
Assertion (A): The Thar Desert region exhibits a higher diurnal range of temperature compared to the eastern plains of Rajasthan.
Reason (R): High albedo, lack of cloud cover, and the low specific heat capacity of loose sand facilitate rapid daytime heating and rapid nighttime cooling.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

27. Which location in Rajasthan generally records the lowest minimum temperature during the winter season due to its high elevation?
(A) Churu
(B) Mount Abu
(C) Phalodi
(D) Fatehpur

28. In the context of Rajasthan's climate, what is the geographical significance of the 50 cm isohyet line?
(A) It marks the international geographic border alignment lying directly between India and Pakistan.
(B) It aligns with the Aravallis, dividing the state into western dry and eastern humid zones.
(C) It defines the regional boundary separating the sub-humid and very humid climatic zones of the state.
(D) It indicates regions receiving over 50 cm of winter rainfall brought by active Western Disturbances.

29. Which of the following represents the correct sequence of cities from West to East, reflecting a general increase in average annual rainfall?
(A) Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Tonk
(B) Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Tonk, Ajmer
(C) Ajmer, Tonk, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur
(D) Tonk, Ajmer, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer

30. Consider the following statements regarding the Aravalli range as a climatic divide:
I. It prevents the expansion of the western desert towards the eastern plains.
II. It forces the Arabian Sea monsoon branch to shed maximum moisture on its western slopes.
III. It acts as a major water divide between the Bay of Bengal drainage system and the Arabian Sea drainage system.
Which combination of the above statements is correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

31. Conceptually, what would be the most likely impact on Rajasthan's climate if the Aravalli mountain range was aligned from East to West instead of South-West to North-East?
(A) The entire state would witness a cold tundra climate system with perennial frost conditions across all districts.
(B) The Thar desert would vanish completely as the Bay of Bengal branch distributes uniform rainfall state-wide.
(C) Rajasthan would suffer zero total rainfall as all seasonal monsoon winds get blocked outside state boundaries.
(D) The Arabian Sea branch would strike perpendicularly, causing heavy rain in the south and leaving the north dry.

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32. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), a meteorological drought is classified as 'severe' when the rainfall deficiency for a region during the monsoon season exceeds

(C) Disaster Management, Relief and Civil Defence Department
(D) Department of Water Resources and Irrigation Infrastructure

81. Consider the following statements regarding the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) utilization during severe climate-induced droughts in Rajasthan:
I. It provides input subsidy to farmers for crop losses exceeding 33%.
II. It funds the establishment and running of cattle camps (Goshala assistance).
III. It is used to provide employment generation under long-term industrial projects.
IV. It facilitates the provision of drinking water through tankers in severely affected rural areas.
Which combination of the above statements is correct?
(A) I, II and IV
(B) I, II and III
(C) II, III and IV
(D) I, III and IV

82. Which of the following is considered the most effective long-term mitigation strategy for reducing the impact of recurrent droughts in rural Rajasthan?
(A) Distributing free emergency food grain supplies continuously to rural families across all districts indefinitely.
(B) Permanently relocating the complete rural population residing in the Thar desert into eastern agricultural plains.
(C) Imposing a strict complete statutory ban on all existing forms of agrarian crop cultivation throughout the state.
(D) Decentralized rainwater harvesting (Khadin, Johad) and watershed management.

83. Which of the following statements regarding historical famine management in Rajasthan is incorrect?
(A) State drought manuals rely solely on post-disaster response and ignore early warning systems.
(B) The Famine Codes originally formulated during the British era formed the primary early administrative framework for drought relief.
(C) Historical famine relief measures focused predominantly on offering public works wage employment such as constructing forts and dams.
(D) The official Drought Management Manual issued in 2016 by the Central Government regulates present drought declaration procedures.

84. Conceptually, what is the relationship between the amount of annual rainfall and its Coefficient of Variation (CV) across the districts of Rajasthan?
(A) Districts registering higher average annual rainfall consistently exhibit a higher statistical coefficient of variation.
(B) The coefficient of variation remains completely fixed at 10% across all districts regardless of annual rainfall totals.
(C) Lower average rainfall corresponds to a higher CV and unreliability.
(D) There is no observable statistical or geographical relationship between total annual rainfall amount and its variation.

85. What is the general impact of a strong El Niño (ENSO positive phase) on the monsoon rainfall pattern in Rajasthan?
(A) It suppresses monsoon rainfall, raising the likelihood of drought.
(B) It reliably guarantees substantial excess precipitation and widespread desert flooding throughout the Thar region.
(C) It systematically accelerates atmospheric circulation, forcing the seasonal monsoon to arrive exactly one month early.
(D) It influences winter precipitation (Mawath) exclusively while exerting zero operational impact on the summer monsoon.

86. Consider the following statements:
Statement I: A positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) generally has a favorable impact on the performance of the southwest monsoon over Rajasthan.
Statement II: A positive IOD can sometimes counteract the negative effects of El Niño, leading to normal or near-normal rainfall in the state.
Which of the following is correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

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72. Consider the following crop adaptations in response to the arid climate of Rajasthan:
I. Deep root systems to extract sub-surface moisture.
II. Short life cycles to complete growth during the brief monsoon period.
III. Large, broad leaves to maximize transpiration.
Which combination reflects the correct adaptations of desert crops (like Bajra and Guar)?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

73. Where is the main Meteorological Centre (MC) of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) for Rajasthan located?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Udaipur
(C) Bikaner
(D) Jaipur

74. To improve the forecasting of extreme weather events like thunderstorms and dust storms, Doppler Weather Radars (DWR) have been installed in Rajasthan. Where was the first DWR commissioned in the state?
(A) Jaipur
(B) Jaisalmer
(C) Mount Abu
(D) Kota

75. When the IMD calculates the baseline average rainfall for a district in Rajasthan, they use the Long Period Average (LPA). What is the standard timeframe used to determine this normal rainfall?
(A) The calculated rolling arithmetic mean of annual precipitation recorded over the last 10 years.
(B) The calculated rolling arithmetic mean of annual precipitation recorded over the last 20 years.
(C) A standard 30 to 50-year historical climate average.
(D) The specific observed total annual rainfall figure recorded during the immediate preceding year.

76. According to comparative climatic data, which district in Rajasthan exhibits the highest coefficient of variation (highest unpredictability) in its annual rainfall?
(A) Banswara
(B) Jaisalmer
(C) Jhalawar
(D) Alwar

77. Which of the following sequences represents districts in the increasing order of their Aridity Index (from least arid to most arid)?
(A) Jhalawar, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer
(B) Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Jaipur, Jhalawar
(C) Jaipur, Jhalawar, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur
(D) Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Jhalawar, Jaipur

78. Which of the following statements correctly compares the climatic data of Banswara and Hanumangarh districts?
(A) Hanumangarh experiences significantly higher annual rainfall and higher average humidity than Banswara state-wide.
(B) Both of these administrative districts fall precisely under the Aw (Tropical Savanna) climatic classification zone.
(C) Banswara has higher rainfall and milder winter extremes than Hanumangarh.
(D) Banswara is exceptionally prone to summer dust storms (Aandhi) whereas Hanumangarh district never experiences them.

79. Read the given assertion and reason carefully and choose the correct option.
Assertion (A): Although Jaisalmer records the lowest average annual rainfall in Rajasthan, it does not consistently record the highest absolute maximum summer temperatures.
Reason (R): Districts like Churu often record higher maximum temperatures due to a lack of vegetation and the specific thermal properties of their sandy, calcareous soil.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

80. In Rajasthan, which department serves as the primary nodal agency for drought management and relief operations at the state level?
(A) Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Affairs
(B) Department of Agriculture, Horticulture and Farmers Welfare

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ANSWERS

1. (B) The Tropic of Cancer passes through the southern districts of Banswara and Dungarpur, placing most of the state in the sub-tropical zone.
The Tropic of Cancer passes through the southernmost region of Rajasthan, specifically touching Dungarpur and running through the center of Banswara district. Because this line of latitude marks the northern boundary of the tropics, the vast majority of Rajasthan's geographical area lies north of it, placing most of the state within the sub-tropical climate zone.

2. (A) I and II only
The climate of Rajasthan is directly governed by its distance from the sea and the structural alignment of the Aravalli mountains. The vast land distance prevents maritime moderating effects, causing continental extremes. Additionally, the Aravalli Range lies parallel to the incoming moist monsoon winds from the Arabian Sea, preventing effective orographic rainfall and inducing widespread regional aridity.

3. (A) The Aravalli Range is aligned parallel to the direction of the Arabian Sea monsoon winds, failing to act as an orographic barrier.
The primary reason Rajasthan receives minimal rainfall from the Arabian Sea monsoon branch is the structural orientation of the Aravalli Range. Extending from southwest to northeast, the mountain range runs parallel to the direction of these moisture-laden winds. Consequently, the winds sweep past without encountering a physical barrier necessary to trigger significant orographic elevation, condensation, and localized rainfall.

4. (C) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
In Koppen's climatic classification of Rajasthan, distinct codes designate different agro-climatic zones based on temperature and precipitation. Aw represents the tropical humid south including Banswara. BShw denotes the semi-arid steppe zone encompassing Nagaur. BWhw corresponds to the hyper-arid desert region exemplified by Jaisalmer. Cwg represents the sub-humid eastern plains, which includes districts like Tonk.

5. (A) The arid western desert
In Thornthwaite's climatic classification, the EA'd symbol represents a tropical or sub-tropical hyper-arid climate characterized by extremely low precipitation and a severe rainfall deficit in all seasons. In Rajasthan, this zone encompasses the westernmost desert districts such as Jaisalmer, Barmer, and parts of Bikaner, where potential evapotranspiration far exceeds the actual annual rainfall.

6. (D) Semi-arid / steppe region
Trewartha modified Koppen's climatic classification scheme to better represent global vegetation and moisture zones. In his classification for Rajasthan, the code BSh represents the semi-arid or steppe climatic region. This transitional zone lies between the hyper-arid western desert and the sub-humid eastern plains, featuring steppe vegetation, moderate rainfall, and high seasonal temperature fluctuations.

7. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
Koppen divided Rajasthan into four distinct climatic regions based on empirical environmental parameters: Aw, BShw, BWhw, and Cwg. However, precipitation was not his sole criterion. Koppen's classification system fundamentally utilized temperature patterns and natural vegetation distribution alongside mean annual and monthly rainfall data to establish climatic boundaries across the state.

8. (B) 25 cm isohyet
The 25 cm isohyet line is a critical geographical boundary in Western Rajasthan. It separates the extremely dry, hyper-arid desert region on the west from the semi-arid steppe region on the east. Areas to the west of this line receive under 25 cm of mean annual rainfall and feature extreme desert landforms like shifting sand dunes.

9. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II explains Statement I.
Western Rajasthan exhibits a remarkably high diurnal range of temperature, where daytime heat contrasts sharply with nighttime cold. This dynamic is directly explained by the region's sandy soil, which possesses low specific heat

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87. (B) Discouraging export of water-intensive crops like paddy or sugarcane from dry areas.
Virtual water refers to the hidden volume of water consumed during the production process of agricultural commodities. In arid regions like Western Rajasthan, reducing virtual water export involves discouraging the commercial cultivation and bulk outward transfer of highly water-intensive crops like paddy or sugarcane, preserving scarce groundwater for sustainable local use.

88. (C) It increased humidity and vegetation locally, but caused waterlogging and soil salinity.
The Indira Gandhi Canal Project brought surface water into Western Rajasthan, increasing local vegetation, soil moisture, and atmospheric humidity. However, continuous canal seepage, excessive flood irrigation, and underlying impermeable hardpan layers triggered widespread waterlogging and secondary soil salinization in command districts like Hanumangarh and Sri Ganganagar.

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89. (A) I and II only
Long-term climate observations in Rajasthan reveal rising mean minimum temperatures and altered rainfall patterns, characterized by high-intensity, short-duration localized precipitation events. However, climate change has not ended drought events; rather, increased rainfall variability and elevated evapotranspiration rates continue to trigger recurrent meteorological and agricultural droughts across the state.

90. (A) Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI)
The Central Arid Zone Research Institute, headquartered in Jodhpur, is a premier national research institution dedicated to multi-disciplinary research on arid and semi-arid environments. CAZRI develops technologies for sand dune stabilization, soil conservation, rainwater harvesting, sustainable agro-forestry, and climate-resilient farming to combat desertification and support agricultural livelihoods in Rajasthan.

east. Additionally, local plateau topography and neighboring hills facilitate convective and orographic lifting, leading to enhanced seasonal precipitation.

20. (A) I, II, III
The southwest monsoon enters Rajasthan from the south and southeast before advancing toward the northwest. Consequently, southern districts like Banswara witness the normal onset of monsoon rains first, typically by mid-June. The monsoon then progresses northward to central districts like Jaipur around late June, finally reaching northwestern desert districts like Sri Ganganagar by early July.

21. (A) The Bay of Bengal Branch
The Bay of Bengal branch of the southwest monsoon delivers the majority of rainfall in Rajasthan. After crossing the Indo-Gangetic plains, these moisture-laden winds strike the eastern slopes of the Aravalli Range and surrounding plains. Conversely, the Arabian Sea branch travels parallel to the Aravallis, causing it to shed far less moisture over the state.

22. (A) I, II and IV
The southwest monsoon enters Rajasthan between mid-June and early July. Rainfall intensity naturally diminishes along a gradient from the humid southeast toward the dry northwest. Because annual rainfall displays high variability, recurrent agricultural droughts are common. However, the retreating monsoon in late autumn brings little to no precipitation to Western Rajasthan, making that statement inaccurate.

23. (B) The winds lose moisture while traveling across the northern plains before reaching the state.
The Bay of Bengal branch of the monsoon originates over the ocean and travels thousands of kilometers across the vast Gangetic plains of eastern and northern India. As these winds move continuously inland, they shed most of their atmospheric moisture through precipitation. By the time they reach Western Rajasthan, the air mass becomes significantly depleted of moisture.

24. (C) June
June is generally the hottest month in Rajasthan, recording peak mean maximum temperatures across the state. During this time, intense solar insolation and clear skies lead to extreme heat, particularly in western districts where daytime temperatures frequently cross 45°C. Temperatures drop only after the arrival and stabilization of the southwest monsoon rains in July.

25. (D) The diurnal temperature range in winter remains extremely low across the Thar desert.
In winter, the diurnal temperature range across the Thar Desert remains remarkably high rather than low. Clear skies and dry air allow rapid surface heating during sunny days and fast radiative cooling at night. While January is the coldest month with occasional ground frost in northern areas like Churu and Sikar, day-night temperature spreads remain wide.

26. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Thar Desert experiences a significantly greater diurnal temperature range than eastern Rajasthan. This environmental phenomenon is caused by the physical properties of desert terrain. Loose quartz sand has a low specific heat capacity and high albedo, allowing rapid thermal absorption under intense daytime sunlight followed by swift nocturnal heat emission back into clear skies.

27. (B) Mount Abu
Mount Abu consistently records the lowest minimum temperatures in Rajasthan during winter due to its high altitude in the southern Aravalli Range. Situated over 1,200 meters above sea level, lapse rate effects cause significant atmospheric cooling, frequently dropping nighttime winter temperatures down to freezing levels and causing localized frost formation across the hill station.

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28. (B) It aligns with the Aravallis, dividing the state into western dry and eastern humid zones.
The 50 cm isohyet line represents an important climatic divide in Rajasthan, running roughly parallel along the eastern slopes of the Aravalli Range. It separates the dry, arid, and semi-arid regions of Western Rajasthan from the relatively moist, sub-humid, and humid regions of Eastern Rajasthan, serving as a fundamental boundary for agricultural and ecological mapping.

drive Potential Evapotranspiration to extremely high levels, far exceeding actual annual rainfall.

49. (B) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but they are independent facts.
Actual evapotranspiration in Western Rajasthan remains low because available surface and soil water is severely limited. Separately, Potential Evapotranspiration is extremely high due to summer heat, intense solar radiation, and strong winds. Both facts are scientifically correct independent descriptions of atmospheric demand versus actual hydrological availability in an arid environment.

50. (D) A hot, dry westerly wind blowing in summer afternoons.
In the regional climatology of Rajasthan, 'Loo' refers to the extremely hot, dry, and gusty winds that blow from the west across the plains during summer afternoons, particularly in May and June. Temperatures during these winds frequently exceed 40°C to 45°C, causing severe dehydration, heat stress, and rapid soil moisture depletion.

51. (B) When maximum temperature reaches 40°C with a notable deviation from normal.
According to India Meteorological Department criteria for weather stations in the plains, a heat wave is officially declared when the daily maximum temperature reaches at least 40°C and strays 4.5°C to 6.4°C above normal. Alternatively, a severe heat wave is declared if the absolute maximum temperature reaches 45°C or higher.

52. (A) I and II only
Cold waves in Rajasthan are triggered by frigid northerly winds descending from snow-covered Himalayas following the passage of Western Disturbances. Ground frost resulting from severe drops in nighttime temperatures frequently causes severe cellular damage to Rabi crops like mustard and gram in northern districts. Southern districts experience frost rarely due to warmer latitudes.

53. (A) They freeze intra-cellular water, causing cell destruction and frost damage in Rabi crops.
Severe cold waves and ground frost negatively affect agricultural crops by freezing moisture within intercellular plant tissues. As intra-cellular water freezes, ice crystals expand and rupture delicate cell walls. This mechanical disruption halts nutrient transport, wilts plant foliage, and severely destroys major standing winter Rabi crops like mustard, gram, and vegetables.

54. (D) Sri Ganganagar
Sri Ganganagar district in northern Rajasthan experiences the highest average number of dust storms, locally known as Aandhi, during the summer months, averaging about 27 days annually. Strong atmospheric convection, intense surface heating, loose sandy topsoil, and sharp pressure gradients during May and June foster frequent dust storm development in this region.

55. (B) A dust storm temporarily drops ambient temperatures, whereas Loo sustains extreme heat.
A pre-monsoon dust storm creates temporary local relief by injecting high dust plumes and downdrafts that block solar radiation, resulting in a brief drop in ambient surface temperatures. Conversely, Loo consists of sustained, scorching, dry wind currents that continuously elevate atmospheric temperatures and aggravate intense summer heat stress across affected regions.

56. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is a consequence of Statement I.
Dust storms in Rajasthan are convective atmospheric phenomena generated by extreme solar heating of sandy terrain, creating localized low-pressure cells and turbulent updrafts. As these storms develop, atmospheric dust layers block direct solar insolation while convective downdrafts bring cooler air down, resulting in temporary relief from scorching summer heat.

57. (D) Sparse vegetation and calcareous sandy soils that rapidly absorb and lose heat.
Churu experiences extreme diurnal and seasonal temperature swings due to its environmental characteristics. The surrounding land features sparse vegetation and light, calcareous sandy soils. These unshaded sands absorb incoming solar radiation very rapidly during hot summer days and radiate heat back into clear skies at night, producing severe localized heating and freezing.

58. (A) Normal lapse rate of temperature with altitude.
The temperature contrast between Mount Abu and low-lying stations like Phalodi during summer

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groundwater extraction, and improper agricultural practices—substantially accelerate topsoil degradation, proving that human factors play a major direct role.

39. (B) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
Key research institutes and development programs manage arid land resources in Rajasthan. Central Arid Zone Research Institute was established in Jodhpur in 1959. Arid Forest Research Institute was set up in Jodhpur in 1985. The Drought Prone Area Programme was launched in 1973-74, while the Desert Development Programme commenced in 1977-78.

40. (C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false.
Observational climate trends in Rajasthan confirm an increasing frequency of extreme weather events, including prolonged heatwaves and intense, short-duration rainfall bursts. However, climate change has not stabilized the monsoon; rather, it has amplified monsoon rainfall variability, causing erratic spatial distribution, frequent dry spells, and localized flash flood events across various state districts.

41. (D) Aridity and desert conditions are expanding eastward into semi-arid and sub-humid districts.
The concept of shifting arid zone boundaries under long-term climate change refers to the spatial expansion of desert conditions toward the east. Driven by rising temperatures, changing rainfall patterns, and land degradation, hyper-arid and semi-arid climatic characteristics are gradually encroaching into eastern and sub-humid districts of Rajasthan that were historically more fertile.

42. (A) Predictable monsoon onset leading to higher yields in traditional Kharif crops.
Climate change destabilizes weather patterns rather than making them predictable. Expected negative impacts on Rajasthan's agriculture include shorter growth cycles for winter Rabi crops due to elevated temperatures, increased atmospheric water loss through higher evapotranspiration, and elevated pest outbreaks. Predictable monsoon onset leading to reliable high yields is contrary to expected climate impacts.

43. (B) Jhalawar
Jhalawar district, situated in the southeastern Hadoti region of Rajasthan, receives the highest average annual rainfall among all districts in the state, averaging approximately 95 cm to 100 cm annually. Its geographical positioning directly exposes it to moisture-laden winds from the Bay of Bengal monsoon branch, ensuring abundant seasonal precipitation.

44. (A) I, II, III, IV
Average annual rainfall in Rajasthan decreases systematically from the southeast toward the northwest. Among the given districts, Jhalawar receives the highest rainfall exceeding 90 cm, followed by Banswara receiving around 80 cm, Jaipur receiving roughly 60 cm, and Jodhpur in the western arid zone recording significantly lower rainfall at approximately 35 cm annually.

45. (A) Jhalawar
Jhalawar district registers the highest number of rainy days in Rajasthan, recording precipitation on approximately 40 days each year. Situated in the southeastern corner of the state, Jhalawar benefits from early monsoon onset and sustained moisture supply from the Bay of Bengal branch, surpassing all other districts in overall rain day frequency.

46. (B) 10 - 15 cm
Jaisalmer district, located in the extreme western part of the Thar Desert, receives the lowest average annual rainfall in Rajasthan, ranging between 10 cm and 15 cm. Severe climatic aridity, absence of structural mountain barriers to intercept monsoon winds, and high atmospheric evapotranspiration rates contribute to this extremely dry environment.

47. (B) August
August generally records the highest average relative humidity levels across Rajasthan. During this peak monsoon month, active moisture-laden winds from both the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea branches blanket the state. Increased cloud cover and widespread rainfall significantly elevate ambient atmospheric moisture compared to dry summer and winter months.

48. (C) The maximum water loss via evaporation and transpiration under unlimited water availability.
Potential Evapotranspiration measures the maximum theoretical amount of water that would evaporate from the soil and transpire from plant canopy assuming an unlimited supply of water. In Western Rajasthan, high temperatures, intense solar radiation, and strong wind speeds

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capacity. Loose sand rapidly absorbs solar radiation during bright days, causing elevated surface temperatures, and swiftly radiates heat back into space during clear nights.

10. (B) I, II and IV
The BWhw climatic region in Koppen's system denotes a hot, hyper-arid desert climate found across western Rajasthan. This region receives low average annual rainfall, usually under 20 cm, while maintaining extremely high potential evapotranspiration rates. Due to severe aridity, the natural vegetation consists of xerophytic shrubs and thorny vegetation rather than dense evergreen forests.

11. (B) Jhalawar
Jhalawar is located in the southeastern Hadoti plateau region of Rajasthan, which experiences a humid to very humid climate with high annual rainfall, often exceeding 90 cm. In contrast, districts such as Jaisalmer, Bikaner, and Sri Ganganagar lie in the arid and hyper-arid western region of the state, characterized by minimal rainfall and desert conditions.

12. (B) Semi-Arid Region
The semi-arid climatic region of Rajasthan, also classified under the steppe climate, is characterized by open grasslands and scrublands. Typical natural vegetation includes short hardy grasses like Sewan alongside drought-resistant thorny bushes and trees such as Khejri. This vegetation type has adapted structurally to survive under moderate, erratic rainfall and prolonged dry summer periods.

13. (A) It covers the Luni Basin and Shekhawati region as a transitional zone.
The semi-arid climatic region of Rajasthan functions as an environmental transition zone between the dry Thar Desert and the wetter eastern plains. Geographically, it encompasses the Luni Basin, Nagaur plateau, and Shekhawati region. The region receives modest annual rainfall between 25 and 50 cm, supporting rain-fed farming and typical steppe vegetation adapted to moisture stress.

14. (C) Jaisalmer
Jaisalmer is classified under the hyper-arid climatic zone, receiving under 15 cm of annual rainfall and featuring extreme desert conditions. On the other hand, Sikar, Jhunjhunu, and Nagaur belong to the semi-arid or steppe climatic zone of Rajasthan, which receives higher average rainfall between 25 and 50 cm and serves as an intermediate transitional landscape.

15. (A) I and II only
The semi-arid region of Rajasthan is geographically bounded by the 25 cm isohyet to its west and the 50 cm isohyet to its east. Agriculture in this region relies heavily on erratic seasonal monsoons, making it vulnerable to agricultural droughts. Shifting sand dunes still affect various western sectors of this transitional zone, proving it is not entirely immune.

16. (C) 60 cm to 80 cm
The humid climatic region of Rajasthan, covering the eastern plains and parts of the southeastern plateau, receives an average annual rainfall ranging between 60 cm and 80 cm. This moisture supply supports stable agricultural operations, deciduous forest growth, and denser population settlement patterns compared to the drier western and central districts of the state.

17. (B) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
Different districts in Rajasthan fall into distinct climatic zones based on rainfall and temperature profiles. Bikaner lies in the hyper-arid desert zone with sparse rainfall. Pali represents the semi-arid transitional zone. Jaipur is located within the sub-humid eastern plain region, while Mount Abu experiences a distinct very humid climate due to its elevated mountain topography.

18. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Mount Abu features a distinct very humid climate, recording the highest annual rainfall in Rajasthan. This localized climate is directly explained by its elevated altitude in the southern Aravalli range. As moisture-laden monsoon winds strike the high relief, they undergo forced orographic uplift and adiabatic cooling, producing dense cloud formation and heavy localized precipitation.

19. (A) Influence of the Bay of Bengal monsoon branch and regional mountain topography.
The southeastern region of Rajasthan, including the Hadoti plateau, receives high annual rainfall primarily due to its geographic position. It lies directly in the path of the moisture-laden Bay of Bengal monsoon branch entering from the

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is explained by the normal atmospheric lapse rate. According to this meteorological principle, air temperature decreases with increasing altitude at roughly 6.5°C per thousand meters. Mount Abu's elevated position in the Aravallis ensures significantly cooler temperatures than surrounding plains.

59. (B) Dungarpur
Dungarpur, located in the southern tropical border zone of Rajasthan near the Tropic of Cancer, maintains higher average winter temperatures and is typically exempt from extreme freezing conditions. In contrast, northern and central interior plains like Churu, Sikar, and Fatehpur frequently experience freezing cold waves and severe ground frost during peak winter.

60. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Interior districts of Rajasthan, such as Jodhpur and Bikaner, experience an extreme continental climate marked by high summer heat and cold winters. This climate is directly caused by their vast interior geographical distance from oceans. Lacking moderating maritime breezes, these landlocked desert landmasses heat rapidly under summer sun and cool swiftly in winter.

61. (A) Mediterranean Sea
Winter rainfall in Rajasthan, locally known as Mawath, is caused by extratropical weather systems termed Western Disturbances. These low-pressure cyclonic storms originate over the Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean. Driven eastward across West Asia by high-altitude westerly jet streams, they carry atmospheric moisture that precipitates over northwestern India during winter months.

62. (C) It irrigates winter Rabi crops like wheat and gram, known as 'Golden Drops'.
Winter rainfall or Mawath provides critical moisture during the dry winter months in Rajasthan, making it immensely beneficial for standing Rabi crops such as wheat, barley, mustard, and gram. Because these unseasonal light showers significantly enhance crop growth and agricultural productivity, farmers traditionally refer to these rain drops as 'Golden Drops'.

63. (B) I, II and III
Mawath occurs between December and February, brought into northwestern India by upper-level westerly jet streams. It delivers crucial moisture that benefits Rabi crops like mustard and wheat. However, Mawath accounts for only about 5% to 10% of Rajasthan's total annual rainfall, making the claim of it exceeding 50% factually incorrect.

64. (C) Mawath causes heavy torrential rains and widespread severe flooding.
Western Disturbances bring light to moderate stratiform showers, overcast skies, and cooler daytime temperatures across northern and western Rajasthan during winter. They do not trigger destructive torrential downpours or widespread severe flooding. These cyclonic systems travel eastward from West Asia as shallow low-pressure troughs, delivering steady, gentle precipitation beneficial to crops.

65. (B) 10
For systematic agricultural planning, natural resource management, and region-specific cropping recommendations, Rajasthan has been categorized into 10 distinct agro-climatic zones by agricultural research bodies. These zones are classified based on parameters including soil characteristics, rainfall volume, temperature ranges, topography, water availability, and predominant cropping systems across districts.

66. (D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Rajasthan's agro-climatic coding system maps specific environmental regions. Zone IA corresponds to the Arid Western Plain encompassing dry desert districts. Zone IIA represents the Transitional Plain of Inland Drainage covering the Shekhawati region. Zone IIIB designates the Flood Prone Eastern Plain, while Zone V represents the Humid South Eastern Plain.

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67. (A) Zone IC (Hyper Arid Partial Irrigated Zone)
Zone IC, designated as the Hyper Arid Partial Irrigated Zone, is geographically the largest among all ten agro-climatic zones in Rajasthan. Encompassing vast desert districts including Jaisalmer, Bikaner, and parts of Sri Ganganagar, this expansive zone covers extensive dry sandy terrain with low erratic rainfall and localized canal irrigation networks.

68. (A) Arid Western Plain (IA) → Semi-Arid Eastern Plain (IIIA) → Humid South Eastern Plain (V)
Moving from west to southeast across Rajasthan, agro-climatic zones exhibit a steady increase in average annual rainfall. The Arid Western Plain (Zone IA) receives under 30 cm, transitioning to the Semi-Arid Eastern Plain (Zone IIIA) receiving 50 to 60 cm, and culminating in the Humid South Eastern Plain (Zone V) receiving over 80 cm.

69. (A) Farmers shift from Bajra to short-duration pulses like Moong or Moth.
When monsoon rains are significantly delayed beyond mid-July in semi-arid Rajasthan, traditional long-duration crops like Pearl Millet (Bajra) risk maturity failure due to early autumn dry spells. Farmers adapt by shifting to short-duration, drought-hardy pulses such as Moong or Moth bean, which require less moisture and complete growth cycles rapidly.

70. (D) Semi-Arid Region — Sorghum (Jowar) and Guar
In the semi-arid region of Rajasthan, agricultural practices are tailored to moderate, erratic rainfall and light soils. Sorghum (Jowar) and Guar (cluster bean) are highly suitable traditional crops for this zone because they feature deep root structures, efficient moisture retention, and high tolerance to mid-season drought conditions.

71. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II explains Statement I.
January ground frost frequently inflicts heavy damage on standing mustard and gram crops in northern Rajasthan. This damage is directly explained by cellular biology: severe cold drops temperatures below freezing, causing cellular sap to freeze into ice crystals. As water expands upon freezing, it ruptures plant cell walls, destroying tissue.

72. (A) I and II only
Desert crops like Pearl Millet and Guar display structural adaptations to survive extreme aridity. They possess deep root systems to access deeper soil moisture and short life cycles to mature within brief monsoon periods. However, broad broad leaves would increase transpiration losses; desert plants instead feature small, reduced, or waxy leaf surfaces.

73. (D) Jaipur
The main Meteorological Centre of the India Meteorological Department for the state of Rajasthan is located in Jaipur. Established to oversee state-wide weather monitoring, this administrative center coordinates weather forecasting, issues heavy rainfall and heatwave alerts, monitors regional monsoon progression, and maintains meteorological observation networks across all districts.

74. (A) Jaipur
To enhance short-range weather forecasting and provide early warnings for severe localized atmospheric events like thunderstorms and dust storms, Rajasthan's first Doppler Weather Radar was installed at Jaipur. DWR technology enables meteorologists to monitor cloud dynamics, rainfall intensity, and wind velocity structure in real time across surrounding regions.

75. (C) A standard 30 to 50-year historical climate average.
The Long Period Average used by the India Meteorological Department to define normal rainfall represents the calculated arithmetic mean of annual precipitation recorded over a standard historical period of 30 to 50 years. This long-term baseline smooths out annual anomalies, providing a benchmark to gauge seasonal excess or deficit rainfall.

76. (B) Jaisalmer
Jaisalmer district exhibits the highest coefficient of variation in annual rainfall across Rajasthan. In climatology, a high coefficient of variation indicates extreme rainfall unreliability and year-to-year unpredictability. Because Jaisalmer receives very low baseline precipitation, minor variations produce large percentage deviations, resulting in frequent drought years interspersed with rare flash floods.

77. (A) Jhalawar, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer
The Aridity Index measures the degree of moisture deficiency relative to atmospheric water demand. Moving from least arid to most arid districts involves moving from the wet southeast to the dry west. Jhalawar is humid, Jaipur is sub-humid, Jodhpur is semi-arid to arid, and Jaisalmer represents the most hyper-arid district.

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78. (C) Banswara has higher rainfall and milder winter extremes than Hanumangarh.
Banswara is located in southern Rajasthan, receiving abundant monsoon rainfall exceeding 80 cm and experiencing milder winter temperatures due to its lower latitude. In contrast, Hanumangarh lies in the northern plains, receiving significantly lower annual rainfall under 30 cm while enduring severe winter cold waves and frequent ground frost.

79. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Although Jaisalmer receives the lowest annual rainfall, Churu often records higher peak summer temperatures. This temperature pattern is explained by soil characteristics and vegetation cover: Churu features loose, unshaded, calcareous sandy soils that absorb solar radiation rapidly under intense sunlight, driving ambient surface temperatures up to extreme highs.

80. (C) Disaster Management, Relief and Civil Defence Department
In Rajasthan, the Disaster Management, Relief and Civil Defence Department functions as the primary nodal state government agency responsible for managing drought situations. It coordinates emergency relief operations, assesses crop damage, issues official drought notifications, manages relief funds, and oversees drinking water and cattle assistance during drought periods.

81. (A) I, II and IV
During severe droughts, the State Disaster Response Fund provides critical financial relief in Rajasthan. It funds input subsidies to farmers suffering crop loss above 33%, supports cattle camps and fodder distribution, and finances emergency drinking water supply via tankers. However, long-term industrial employment generation falls outside SDRF operational guidelines.

82. (D) Decentralized rainwater harvesting (Khadin, Johad) and watershed management.
Decentralized rainwater harvesting—utilizing traditional structures like Khadins and Johads—combined with integrated watershed management provides the most effective long-term mitigation against recurring droughts in rural Rajasthan. These sustainable practices replenish localized aquifers, retain soil moisture, secure drinking water availability, and enhance agricultural resilience without disrupting local communities.

83. (A) State drought manuals rely solely on post-disaster response and ignore early warning systems.
Modern state drought management manuals integrate early warning monitoring systems alongside emergency relief measures. State framework relies on multi-parameter indices—including rainfall deficits, satellite soil moisture data, reservoir levels, and crop sowing status—to detect emerging drought conditions early, proving that drought manuals do not ignore early warning protocols.

84. (C) Lower average rainfall corresponds to a higher CV and unreliability.
In climatology, an inverse relationship exists between total annual rainfall and its Coefficient of Variation. Districts receiving low average annual rainfall, such as Jaisalmer and Barmer, exhibit very high coefficients of variation, indicating severe rainfall unreliability. Conversely, wet southeastern districts with high average rainfall maintain low variation coefficients and predictable monsoons.

85. (A) It suppresses monsoon rainfall, raising the likelihood of drought.
A strong El Niño event, characterized by abnormal warming of central and eastern equatorial Pacific waters, disrupts global atmospheric circulation and monsoon wind patterns. Over Rajasthan, El Niño suppresses atmospheric convection and monsoon moisture inflow, frequently causing delayed monsoon arrival, extended dry spells, reduced total precipitation, and heightened drought risk.

86. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
A positive Indian Ocean Dipole phase involves warmer sea surface temperatures in the western Indian Ocean, which enhances monsoon moisture flow toward India and boosts rainfall over Rajasthan. Furthermore, a strong positive IOD can counteract the drying effects of a concurrent El Niño, helping maintain normal or near-normal seasonal precipitation.

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29. (A) Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Tonk
Annual rainfall in Rajasthan follows a distinct increasing spatial trend from west to east. Jaisalmer in the extreme west receives the lowest rainfall under 15 cm. Moving eastward, Jodhpur receives around 35 cm, Ajmer in the central Aravalli zone receives roughly 50 cm, and Tonk in the eastern plains receives over 60 cm of annual precipitation.

30. (C) I and III only
The Aravalli Range serves as a major geographical barrier that halts the eastward expansion of Thar Desert sand dunes into fertile eastern plains. It also acts as a primary hydrological divide separating the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea drainage basins. However, it does not force Arabian Sea monsoon winds to shed maximum rain on its western slopes.

31. (D) The Arabian Sea branch would strike perpendicularly, causing heavy rain in the south and leaving the north dry.
If the Aravalli Range were aligned East-West instead of Southwest-Northeast, it would stand directly perpendicular to the incoming Arabian Sea monsoon winds. This structural orientation would force massive orographic lifting and heavy rainfall on the southern windward slopes, while blocking moisture from reaching the northern districts, creating severe rain-shadow aridity in the north.

32. (C) 50%
According to standard meteorological criteria defined by the India Meteorological Department, a meteorological drought occurs when seasonal rainfall falls below normal levels. It is classified as moderate when precipitation deficiency ranges between 26% and 50%. When the seasonal rainfall deficiency exceeds 50% of the Long Period Average, it is categorized as a severe meteorological drought.

33. (B) Chhappanya Akal — Vikram Samvat 1956
The 'Chhappanya Akal' is one of the most devastating historic famines recorded in Rajasthan's history. It occurred during Vikram Samvat 1956, corresponding to the Gregorian calendar years 1899–1900. This widespread catastrophic event involved severe deficits in rainfall, food grains, fodder, and drinking water, causing widespread mortality and distress across the entire region.

34. (A) I, II and III
Drought is categorized into distinct scientific types based on affected domain systems. Meteorological drought stems from acute precipitation deficiency. Hydrological drought involves severe depletion of surface reservoirs and groundwater reserves. Agricultural drought arises when soil moisture drops below levels required for crop survival. Socio-economic drought refers to broader societal disruptions beyond mere per capita income declines.

35. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Western Rajasthan suffers from a very high frequency of agricultural drought. This vulnerability is explained by environmental factors: monsoon rainfall is highly erratic, and the coarse sandy soils possess extremely low water retention capacity. Coupled with high summer temperatures and rapid potential evapotranspiration, soil moisture dries out quickly, failing to sustain crop development.

36. (C) 67%
According to spatial degradation assessments and remote sensing studies conducted by scientific organizations, approximately 67% of Rajasthan's total geographical area is impacted by various forms of desertification and land degradation. Wind erosion, vegetation degradation, water erosion, and soil salinization are the leading physical drivers expanding degraded land across the state.

37. (A) Overgrazing by livestock and deforestation
Overgrazing by large livestock populations and the systematic clearing of natural vegetation represent the primary human-induced drivers of desertification in Western Rajasthan. Stripping protective plant cover and fragile topsoil exposes dry sandy terrain to aggressive wind action. This accelerates soil erosion, destroys natural dune stability, and expands desert landforms across fragile semi-arid landscapes.

38. (D) Desertification in Rajasthan is exclusively a natural phenomenon with no human influence.
Desertification in Rajasthan is driven by a combination of natural environmental pressures and severe human interventions. While climatic aridity and wind erosion are dominant natural forces, unsustainable anthropogenic activities—including overgrazing, deforestation, excessive

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CHAPTER 13

Drainage System and Water Conservation of Rajasthan

1. Which of the following best defines an inland drainage system in the context of Rajasthan?
(A) A river system where streams originate in the plains and flow directly into the sea without joining any major river.
(B) A drainage pattern where rivers and streams fail to reach an ocean or sea and instead empty into an inland basin, lake, or dissipate in the sand.
(C) A system of artificial canals constructed to connect multiple internal river basins for drinking water supply.
(D) A network of subterranean rivers that eventually merge with groundwater aquifers and emerge as coastal springs.

2. Approximately what percentage of the total drainage area of Rajasthan is classified under the inland drainage system?
(A) 20 percent
(B) 40 percent
(C) 60 percent
(D) 80 percent

3. Which of the following rivers is classified under the external (river-basin) drainage system of Rajasthan?
(A) Chambal
(B) Kantli
(C) Sabi
(D) Kakneya

4. Match List-I (River) with List-II (Place of Origin) and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: (River)
P. Banas
Q. Luni
R. Sabi
S. Kantli
List II: (Place of Origin)
1. Sewar Hills
2. Khandela Hills
3. Khamnor Hills
4. Nag Pahar
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2

5. The traditional rainwater harvesting and agricultural system known as 'Khadin' is most prominently practiced in which district of Rajasthan?
(A) Jaisalmer
(B) Banswara
(C) Jhalawar
(D) Bharatpur

6. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Sambhar Lake is the largest inland salt lake in India.
Reason (R): It receives water from several seasonal rivers like Mendha, Rupangarh, Khari, and Khandela, which bring dissolved salts into the depression.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

7. The Chambal River, the only perennial river of Rajasthan, originates from which of the following locations?
(A) Gogunda Hills in Udaipur
(B) Janapav Hills in Madhya Pradesh
(C) Vindhyan Escarpments in Chittorgarh
(D) Aravalli Range in Ajmer

8. Consider the following statements regarding the Luni River:
I. It originates from the Nag Pahar hills in the Ajmer district.
II. Its water remains fresh up to Balotra, after which it becomes highly saline.

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III. It ultimately discharges its water into the Gulf of Khambhat.

Which of the given statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

9. In the context of traditional water conservation in Rajasthan, what is the primary function of a 'Tanka'?
(A) An open earthen dam constructed across a seasonal stream to check soil erosion.
(B) A stepwell constructed by historical rulers for community gathering and rituals.
(C) A masonry diversion channel constructed to bring river water to farmlands.
(D) An underground cistern constructed for collecting and storing rainwater.

10. The Mahi River basin in Rajasthan is predominantly located in which geographical region of the state?
(A) Northern Rajasthan
(B) Eastern Plains
(C) Western Arid Region
(D) Southern Rajasthan

11. Which of the following is the most significant cause of the widespread depletion of groundwater resources and the creation of 'dark zones' in Rajasthan?
(A) Excessive industrial water consumption across major urban manufacturing hubs.
(B) Excessive groundwater extraction for agricultural tube-well irrigation.
(C) Reduced natural surface flow along seasonal streams in the Aravalli range.
(D) Construction of large masonry dams that severely restrict natural seepage.

12. Arrange the following major dams constructed on the Chambal River in the correct sequence from upstream to downstream (South to North):
1. Jawahar Sagar Dam
2. Gandhi Sagar Dam
3. Kota Barrage
4. Rana Pratap Sagar Dam

Select the correct order from the options given below:
(A) 2, 4, 1, 3
(B) 4, 2, 1, 3
(C) 2, 1, 4, 3
(D) 4, 1, 2, 3

13. Jaisamand Lake, one of the largest artificial freshwater lakes in Asia, features multiple inhabited islands. What is the name of the largest island in this lake?
(A) Baba Ka Bhagra
(B) Piari
(C) Jag Mandir
(D) Natni Ka Chabutra

14. After originating in Rajasthan, the Sabarmati River primarily flows through which neighboring state before emptying into the sea?
(A) Madhya Pradesh
(B) Haryana
(C) Gujarat
(D) Maharashtra

15. Consider the following statements regarding the Indira Gandhi Canal Project (IGNP):
I. It draws its water from the Harike Barrage situated at the confluence of the Sutlej and Beas rivers.
II. It was conceived by the engineer Kanwar Sen to transform the arid regions of Western Rajasthan.
III. The canal system strictly provides water for irrigation and is not designed for municipal drinking water supply.
IV. Extensive irrigation in its command area has led to localized ecological issues such as waterlogging and soil salinity.

Which of the given statements is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II only
(B) III only
(C) II and IV only
(D) III and IV only

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16. What is a 'Nadi' in the terminology of traditional water management in Rajasthan?
(A) A deep, narrow vertical well dug adjacent to a dry riverbed for local water extraction.
(B) A heavy masonry storage dam built across a river primarily for generating hydroelectricity.
(C) A village pond constructed to harvest surface runoff from its catchment area.
(D) A decorated architectural stepwell with subterranean stories used for religious ceremonies.

17. The Jawai Dam, often referred to as the 'Amrit Sarovar of Marwar', is built across the Jawai River. The Jawai River is a major tributary of which drainage system?

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being average is not enough.

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(A) Chambal River system
(B) Luni River system
(C) Banas River system
(D) Mahi River system

18. Which of the following sets of rivers correctly represents the major tributaries of the Banas River?
(A) Som, Jakham, Anas, and Moran
(B) Parbati, Kali Sindh, Ahu, and Niwaj
(C) Sukri, Bandi, Jawai, and Jojari
(D) Berach, Kothari, Khari, and Morel

19. Match List-I (Lake) with List-II (District/ Location) and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: (Lake)
P. Pushkar Lake
Q. Rajsamand Lake
R. Jaisamand Lake
S. Sambhar Lake
List II: (District/Location)
1. Udaipur
2. Ajmer
3. Jaipur Rural / Nagaur border
4. Rajsamand
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

20. The Pushkar Lake is considered one of the most sacred lakes in India. Which country partnered with the state government for the Pushkar Lake cleaning and conservation project?
(A) Japan
(B) France
(C) Canada
(D) Germany

21. Which river basin in Rajasthan is most notorious for extensive gully erosion, resulting in the formation of deep ravines or badland topography?
(A) Chambal Basin
(B) Luni River Basin
(C) Banas River Basin
(D) Mahi River Basin

22. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Within the geographical categorization of Rajasthan, the Luni River is studied as an inland drainage river.
Reason (R): The Luni River fails to reach the open ocean and eventually dissipates into the marshy lands of the Rann of Kutch.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

23. The Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) is a major inter-basin water transfer initiative. What is its primary objective?
(A) To transfer surplus floodwaters from the Mahi basin to the drought-prone regions of Marwar.
(B) To transfer surplus monsoon water from the Chambal basin to water-deficit river basins.
(C) To divert perennial Himalayan waters from the Sutlej River directly into the Luni basin.
(D) To channelize seasonal floodwaters of the Ghaggar river into the Indira Gandhi Canal system.

24. Which traditional water conservation structure in Rajasthan is renowned not only for water storage but also for its intricate architecture, multiple subterranean stories, and role as a cultural and social gathering place?
(A) Tanka
(B) Johad
(C) Baori
(D) Khadin

25. The Mahi Bajaj Sagar Dam, a major multipurpose project on the Mahi River, is situated in which district of Rajasthan?
(A) Dungarpur
(B) Pratapgarh
(C) Udaipur
(D) Banswara

26. Consider the following statements regarding the Banas River:
I. It is the longest river whose entire course lies within the boundaries of Rajasthan.
II. It originates from the Khamnor Hills in the Rajsamand district.
III. It joins the Yamuna River directly near Agra.
Which of the given statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only

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(D) I, II and III

27. The Bisalpur Dam was primarily constructed to provide a reliable drinking water supply to which major urban centers in Rajasthan?
(A) Jodhpur, Pali, and Barmer
(B) Jaipur, Ajmer, and Tonk
(C) Udaipur, Rajsamand, and Bhilwara
(D) Kota, Bundi, and Baran

28. Which prominent non-governmental organization, led by 'Waterman of India' Rajendra Singh, played a critical role in reviving dried rivers in Rajasthan through community-based construction of Johads?
(A) Narmada Bachao Andolan
(B) Tarun Bharat Sangh
(C) Jal Bhagirathi Foundation
(D) Foundation for Ecological Security

29. Which of the following options represents the correct descending order of the given river basins based on their total drainage area strictly within Rajasthan?
(A) Luni, Banas, Chambal, Mahi
(B) Banas, Luni, Chambal, Mahi
(C) Chambal, Banas, Luni, Mahi
(D) Banas, Chambal, Luni, Mahi

30. What was the central objective of the Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan (MJSA) launched by the Government of Rajasthan?
(A) To construct mega-dams across major seasonal rivers strictly for generating hydroelectricity.
(B) To mandate advanced RO filtration systems across all urban and suburban households state-wide.
(C) To make villages self-reliant in water through decentralized harvesting and community action.
(D) To interlink external drainage rivers across the state into a navigable inland canal network.

31. The Kantli River, an important river of the inland drainage system, entirely flows through which specific historical region of Rajasthan?
(A) Mewar historical region
(B) Marwar historical region
(C) Hadoti historical region
(D) Shekhawati region

32. Rana Pratap Sagar Dam, which has the largest water storage capacity among the dams built on the Chambal River in Rajasthan, is located at:
(A) Kota City
(B) Chaurasigarh
(C) Rawatbhata
(D) Mandalgarh

33. The Jaisamand Lake was created by damming the Gomti River. Which ruler of Mewar was responsible for the construction of this lake?
(A) Maharana Raj Singh
(B) Maharana Jai Singh
(C) Maharana Fateh Singh
(D) Maharana Kumbha

34. The Som and Jakham rivers are significant tributaries that merge with which major river system?
(A) Sabarmati River system
(B) Luni River system
(C) Banas River system
(D) Mahi River system

35. In differentiating traditional water structures, how does a 'Johad' primarily differ from a 'Tanka'?
(A) A Johad is an earthen check dam for groundwater recharge, while a Tanka is an underground cistern.
(B) A Johad is an underground cylindrical storage tank, whereas a Tanka is an open surface earthen pond.
(C) A Johad is a natural depression in rocky desert terrain, whereas a Tanka is artificially dug in riverbeds.
(D) A Johad is constructed exclusively in humid southern districts, while a Tanka is built in eastern plains.

NODIA

36. Which famous historical text, recognized as the longest stone inscription in India, is engraved on 25 black marble slabs at the Nau Chowki Pal of Rajsamand Lake?
(A) Kumbhalgarh Prashasti
(B) Bijolia Inscription
(C) Raj Prashasti
(D) Kirti Stambha Prashasti

37. Wakal, Hathmati, Meshwa, and Vetrak are the principal tributaries of which river?
(A) Sabarmati
(B) Mahi River System
(C) Luni River System

(D) Chambal River System

38. Consider the following statements regarding water conservation initiatives in Rajasthan:
I. The Dewas Water Project was implemented to meet the drinking water demands of Udaipur city through inter-basin water transfer.
II. Rainwater harvesting has been made legally mandatory for all newly constructed buildings on plots larger than 300 sq. meters in urban areas.
III. The Atal Bhujal Yojana operates exclusively through entirely state-funded large-scale dam constructions.
IV. Community-managed institutions like the 'Arvari Sansad' demonstrate successful participatory river basin management.
Which of the given statements is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II only
(B) III only
(C) II and IV only
(D) I and III only

39. Which traditional agricultural practice involves capturing runoff water in a low-lying area behind an earthen embankment, allowing it to percolate, and then cultivating crops on the moisture-rich soil?
(A) Jhuming
(B) Khadin
(C) Dhora
(D) Paytan

40. Groundwater in several districts of Rajasthan is severely contaminated, leading to a geographical belt historically termed the 'Banka Patti' or 'Kuber Patti'. This belt is primarily afflicted by an excess of which mineral?
(A) Arsenic compounds
(B) Dissolved iron
(C) Fluoride
(D) High nitrate content

41. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Banas River is colloquially known as 'Varnasha' or the 'Hope of the Forest'.
Reason (R): It is the only river in Rajasthan that maintains a year-round, deep perennial flow traversing through the Thar Desert.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

42. The Mahi River originates from which geographical feature?
(A) Mehnd Lake in the Vindhya range of Madhya Pradesh
(B) Bairath Hills in the northern Aravalli range of Rajasthan
(C) Janapav Hills situated within the Malwa plateau region
(D) Girnar Hills situated in the Junagadh district of Gujarat

43. How many bathing ghats are traditionally established around the holy Pushkar Lake?
(A) 24
(B) 52
(C) 108
(D) 1001

44. The Jawai Dam provides critical irrigation and drinking water supply to the drought-prone regions of western Rajasthan. It is geographically located in which district?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Pali
(C) Barmer
(D) Jalore

45. Match List-I (Traditional Water Structure) with List-II (Associated Primary Region/Caste) and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: (Traditional Water Structure)
P. Khadin
Q. Johad
R. Tanka
S. Jhalra
List II: (Associated Primary Region/Caste)
1. Shekhawati region
2. Jodhpur/Marwar (community step-pools)
3. Paliwal Brahmins of Jaisalmer
4. Western arid homesteads
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

46. The Ghaggar River is a prominent example of inland drainage. The fertile, flat bed of this river in the Hanumangarh and Sriganganagar districts is locally known as:

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(A) Khadar
(B) Rohi
(C) Nali
(D) Magra

47. Which of the following correctly identifies the rivers that join the Chambal River from its right bank in Rajasthan?
(A) Banas, Mej, Kothari, and Khari
(B) Som, Jakham, Anas, and Moran
(C) Sukri, Bandi, Jawai, and Guhiya
(D) Kali Sindh, Parbati, and Ahu

48. Arrange the following tributaries of the Luni River in the correct sequential order from North to South, based on their confluence points with the main river:
1. Jawai
2. Bandi
3. Sukri
4. Jojari

Select the correct order from the options given below:
(A) 4, 2, 3, 1
(B) 2, 4, 1, 3
(C) 4, 3, 2, 1
(D) 3, 2, 4, 1

49. The Rajsamand Lake, an artificial water body of great historical significance, was primarily fed by diverting the waters of which river?
(A) Kothari
(B) Gomti
(C) Berach
(D) Khari

50. In the structural design of a traditional Khadin, what term is used to describe the primary earthen embankment built across the lower edge of the sloping land to hold back the water?
(A) Agor
(B) Paytan
(C) Kui
(D) Dhora

51. The Kakneya (also known as Masurdi) River is the smallest river of Rajasthan's inland drainage system. It forms which local lake before disappearing into the sand?
(A) Bhuj Lake
(B) Pachpadra Lake
(C) Lunkaransar Lake
(D) Tal Chhapar Lake

52. The Indira Gandhi Canal network utilizes 'Lift Canals' extensively. What is the primary geographical reason necessitating the use of lift canals in this project?
(A) The water source altitude at Harike Barrage lies significantly lower than the western Thar Desert plain.
(B) The main canal route intersects steep ridges of the Aravalli range requiring high-volume vertical pumping.
(C) The natural desert slope is westwards, requiring pumping to supply eastern elevated areas.
(D) High velocity of flowing canal water necessitates lift stations to function as structural speed breakers.

53. Consider the following statements regarding Sambhar Lake:
I. It is situated at the tri-junction of Jaipur, Ajmer, and Nagaur districts.
II. It accounts for more than 8% of India's total salt production.
III. Geologically, it is a crater lake formed by a meteorite impact during the Pleistocene epoch.

Which of the given statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

NODIA

54. The Luni River is often considered the lifeline of the semi-arid western Rajasthan. At its place of origin near Ajmer, it is initially known by which name before joining the Saraswati stream at Pushkar?
(A) Lavanavati
(B) Marudvridha
(C) Charmanyavati
(D) Sagarmati

55. The Bisalpur Dam is an operational gravity dam constructed across which river?
(A) Chambal
(B) Banas
(C) Luni
(D) Mahi

56. What is the designated term for the scientifically designed artificial catchment area surrounding a traditional 'Tanka', which is smoothed and sloped to direct rainwater into the central cistern?
(A) Nadi catchment basin

(B) Bawdi structure
(C) Agor
(D) Jhalra enclosure

57. The internationally renowned 'Chand Baori', one of the deepest and largest stepwells in India known for its precise geometrical patterns, is located in which town of Rajasthan?
(A) Bundi town
(B) Osian town
(C) Ranakpur valley
(D) Abhaneri

58. The 'Arvari Sansad' (Arvari Parliament) is a unique grassroots institution formed in Rajasthan. Its primary purpose is to:
(A) Ensure community management and equitable distribution of the rejuvenated river's water.
(B) Mediate complex interstate river water sharing disputes between Rajasthan and neighboring Haryana.
(C) Regulate and standardize urban drinking water tariffs across state municipal corporations.
(D) Provide emergency financial micro-loans to smallholder farmers severely affected by drought.

59. The Mahi River holds a unique geographical distinction in the map of Rajasthan and India. Which of the following statements best describes this distinction?
(A) It is the only river in India that flows entirely from East to West.
(B) It is the only river in Rajasthan that crosses the Tropic of Cancer twice.
(C) It forms the longest natural international boundary between India and Pakistan.
(D) It is the only river originating in Rajasthan that merges directly into the Ganges.

60. Consider the following statements regarding the Chambal River system:
I. It enters Rajasthan at Chaurasigarh in the Chittorgarh district.
II. It flows through a deep gorge and forms the boundary between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.
III. The river basin is completely devoid of any major hydroelectric power projects to preserve its natural sanctuary status.
IV. The National Chambal Sanctuary is dedicated to the conservation of the critically endangered Gharial.
Which of the given statements is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and IV only
(B) II and III only
(C) I, III, and IV only
(D) I and IV only

61. In the construction of a Tanka, materials like ash, gravel, and lime were traditionally used on the catchment area (Agor) primarily to:
(A) Seal soil pores to maximize surface runoff and prevent seepage.
(B) Enhance the overall aesthetic appearance and cultural ornamentation of the structure.
(C) Induce micro-level artificial precipitation by altering local ground surface temperatures.
(D) Neutralize highly acidic compounds naturally present in arid atmospheric rainfall.

62. Which major river of Rajasthan originates from the eastern slopes of the Aravalli range in the Rajsamand district, specifically near Kumbhalgarh?
(A) Chambal
(B) Luni
(C) Banas
(D) Sabarmati

63. Among the cascade of dams built on the Chambal River, which dam is located in Madhya Pradesh and NOT in Rajasthan?
(A) Rana Pratap Sagar Dam
(B) Jawahar Sagar Dam
(C) Kota Barrage
(D) Gandhi Sagar Dam

64. The Sabarmati River is a crucial watercourse for Gujarat, but its basin originates in which district of Rajasthan?
(A) Sirohi
(B) Dungarpur
(C) Udaipur
(D) Banswara

65. The fertile socio-cultural and geographical tract in south-western Rajasthan through which the Luni River and its tributaries flow is traditionally referred to as:
(A) Vagad Tract
(B) Godwar Tract
(C) Mewat Tract
(D) Merwara Tract

66. Jaisamand Lake is alternatively known by another popular historical name. What is it?

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(A) Pichola Lake
(B) Nakki Lake
(C) Ana Sagar Lake
(D) Dhebar Lake

67. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Indira Gandhi Canal Project has dramatically increased agricultural productivity in north-western Rajasthan.
Reason (R): Intensive canal irrigation without adequate drainage in the IGNP command area has resulted in severe waterlogging and soil salinity in many locations.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

68. The sacred Pushkar Lake hosts its world-famous fair, drawing thousands of devotees and livestock traders, during which Hindu lunar month?
(A) Chaitra
(B) Shravan
(C) Kartik
(D) Magha

69. The Sabi River, an important seasonal stream of the inland drainage system, originates from the Sewar hills. It primarily drains towards and dissipates in which state?
(A) Haryana
(B) Gujarat
(C) Madhya Pradesh
(D) Punjab

70. Which of the following rivers is NOT a tributary of the Luni River?
(A) Jojari
(B) Sukri
(C) Guhiya
(D) Som

71. The Parwan, Niwaj, and Ahu are important sub-tributaries associated with which broader river basin in Rajasthan?
(A) Luni River Basin System
(B) Chambal Basin
(C) Sabarmati River Basin System
(D) Mahi River Basin System

72. Match List-I (Dam/Project) with List-II (River) and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: (Dam/Project)
P. Bisalpur Dam
Q. Mahi Bajaj Sagar Dam
R. Jawai Dam
S. Rana Pratap Sagar Dam
List II: (River)
1. Mahi
2. Chambal
3. Banas
4. Jawai
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

73. Which modern inter-state canal project introduced mandatory micro-irrigation (sprinkler and drip systems) for all its command areas in Rajasthan to ensure optimum water conservation?
(A) Indira Gandhi Canal Project
(B) Gang Canal Project
(C) Rajiv Gandhi Lift Canal
(D) Narmada Canal Project

NODIA

74. Which of the following accurately describes the structure of a 'Johad' prevalent in the Alwar and Shekhawati regions?
(A) An earthen check dam built across a slope to capture surface runoff for groundwater recharge.
(B) A multistory subterranean stepped well constructed entirely of finely carved yellow sandstone blocks.
(C) A deep motorized tube-well system designed for extracting ancient water from confined deep aquifers.
(D) A raised masonry canal distribution platform used to regulate water flow to individual farm plots.

75. According to the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) classifications, what does it mean when a groundwater block in Rajasthan is categorized as 'Over-exploited'?
(A) The groundwater is highly contaminated with industrial effluents making it unfit for any use.
(B) The annual groundwater extraction exceeds the annual net groundwater recharge.
(C) The block has natural artesian wells that

continuously overflow.
(D) The groundwater level is so deep that modern drilling technology cannot reach it.

76. The 'Sujalam Sufalam' water conservation campaign was primarily associated with rejuvenating the riverbeds and water bodies of which river basin?
(A) Luni Basin
(B) Mahi Basin
(C) Banas Basin
(D) Ghaggar Basin

77. Besides the Bisalpur Dam, which of the following dams is also built across the Banas River?
(A) Nand Samand Dam
(B) Meja Storage Dam
(C) Morel Irrigation Dam
(D) Panchana Masonry Dam

78. Which of the following options represents the correct sequence of districts through which the Chambal River flows in Rajasthan, from its point of entry to its exit towards Uttar Pradesh?
(A) Chittorgarh, Bundi, Kota, Karauli, Sawai Madhopur, Dholpur
(B) Chittorgarh, Jhalawar, Baran, Kota, Sawai Madhopur, Dholpur
(C) Chittorgarh, Kota, Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, Karauli, Dholpur
(D) Chittorgarh, Udaipur, Kota, Bundi, Bharatpur, Dholpur

79. Which set of rivers forms the primary source of water bringing dissolved salts into the Sambhar Lake?
(A) Luni, Sukri, Bandi, Jawai, and Guhiya
(B) Banas, Berach, Menal, Kothari, and Khari
(C) Sabi, Sota, Dohan, Sahibi, and Krishnavati
(D) Mendha, Rupangarh, Khari, and Khandela

80. The intricate marble pavilions and ornamental arches located on the embankment of Rajsamand Lake are collectively referred to as:
(A) Chhatri Bagh
(B) Saheliyon Ki Bari
(C) Nau Chowki Pal
(D) Bada Bagh

81. Consider the following statements regarding the Jaisamand Lake:
I. It is an artificial lake created by damming the Gomti River.
II. It features several islands inhabited by the native Bhil and Meena tribes.
III. The Ranakpur Jain Temples are situated directly on its main island.
Which of the given statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

82. The Ruparel River, which is part of the inland drainage system and was historically significant for filling the moat of the Lohagarh Fort, flows primarily through which districts?
(A) Jodhpur and Pali
(B) Sikar and Jhunjhunu
(C) Jaisalmer and Barmer
(D) Alwar and Bharatpur

83. At which specific geographical location does the Chambal River enter the state boundary of Rajasthan from Madhya Pradesh?
(A) Chaurasigarh
(B) Rawatbhata
(C) Khatoli
(D) Keshoraipatan

84. The ingenious 'Khadin' system of runoff agriculture was historically pioneered and perfected in the 15th century by which community in the Jaisalmer region?
(A) Bishnoi community of Marwar
(B) Folk musical Manganiyar caste
(C) Paliwal Brahmins
(D) Traditional Langa musicians

85. Consider the following statements regarding traditional water conservation techniques in Rajasthan:
I. A Tanka is an underground cistern primarily constructed in Western Rajasthan for harvesting rainwater.
II. A Johad is typically an earthen check dam designed to capture runoff and recharge groundwater.
III. Khadins were traditionally developed by the Paliwal Brahmins of Jaisalmer.
IV. A Nadi is exclusively a modern concrete structure introduced during the Indira Gandhi Canal project.
Which of the given statements is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II only
(B) III and IV only
(C) IV only
(D) II and IV only

86. The Sabarmati River traverses only a short distance in Rajasthan. At which point does it enter the state of Gujarat?
(A) Khedbrahma border post
(B) Danta forest range border
(C) Idar valley border region
(D) Kotda border

87. The Luni River has a total length of approximately 495 km. Roughly what proportion of this total length flows within the boundaries of Rajasthan before entering Gujarat?
(A) Less than 20%
(B) About 40%
(C) About 65%
(D) Over 90%

88. The Atal Bhujal Yojana, implemented in several districts of Rajasthan, is primarily focused on which specific aspect of water management?
(A) Constructing large-scale hydroelectric dams across all major perennial rivers.
(B) Desalinating inland saline waters of Sambhar Lake for regional drinking purposes.
(C) Promoting participatory groundwater management to arrest depletion.
(D) Interlinking major river systems through high-capacity underground pipeline networks.

89. The Banas River forms a famous 'Triveni Sangam' (confluence of three rivers) near Bigod in Bhilwara district. Which two rivers join the Banas at this specific confluence?
(A) Som and Jakham
(B) Kothari and Khari
(C) Dai and Dheel
(D) Berach and Menal

90. The 'Rajasthan Water Sector Livelihood Improvement Project' (RWSLIP), aimed at rehabilitating irrigation infrastructure and empowering water user associations, is financially supported by which international agency?
(A) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
(B) World Bank Group International Development Association
(C) Asian Development Bank Regional Infrastructure Division
(D) United Nations Development Programme Global Water Facility

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ANSWERS

1. (B) A drainage pattern where rivers and streams fail to reach an ocean or sea and instead empty into an inland basin, lake, or dissipate in the sand.
Inland drainage systems characterize regions where surface runoff does not flow toward sea outlets. Instead, streams flow into interior basins, salt lakes, or sink directly into desert sand dunes due to high evaporation rates, gentle slopes, and porous soils. This hydrological pattern is common in arid and semi-arid landscapes, preventing rivers from establishing ocean connections.

2. (C) 60 percent
The internal or inland drainage system occupies approximately sixty percent of the total drainage area of Rajasthan. This dominant share arises because vast desert expanses, low seasonal precipitation, and high evaporation prevent surface streams from forming permanent outlets to the ocean, causing rivers to terminate within inland depressions, saline lakes, or desert sand dunes.

3. (A) Chambal
The Chambal River forms part of the external river basin drainage network, originating in Madhya Pradesh and flowing into the Yamuna River, which ultimately drains into the Bay of Bengal. Other seasonal streams like Kantli, Sabi, and Kakneya lack outlets to the open sea, operating entirely within inland or internal drainage networks across desert terrain.

4. (C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
River origins across Rajasthan follow specific geographical hill tracts. Banas originates in the Khamnor Hills of Rajsamand. Luni emerges from Nag Pahar in Ajmer. Sabi begins its flow in the Sewar Hills of Jaipur. Kantli starts in the Khandela Hills of Sikar. These geographical source points define major river drainage paths throughout eastern, central, and western regional terrains.

5. (A) Jaisalmer
Khadin is a traditional rainwater harvesting and runoff farming technique extensively practiced in the arid Jaisalmer district. Introduced historically by local agrarian communities, this system utilizes earthen embankments to capture surface runoff across sloped rocky landscapes, retaining soil moisture and allowing bumper agricultural harvests in hyper-arid desert conditions without needing supplemental irrigation systems.

NODIA

6. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Sambhar Lake represents India's largest inland saltwater basin, collecting surface drainage from a large closed catchment area. Seasonal ephemeral streams, including Mendha, Rupangarh, Khari, and Khandela, transport dissolved sodium salts and minerals into the shallow playa depression. Continuous evaporation in this arid environment concentrates these dissolved salts, maintaining high brine salinity across the vast lake surface.

7. (B) Janapav Hills in Madhya Pradesh
The Chambal River, representing the sole major perennial watercourse in the state, originates from the northern slopes of the Vindhya Range at Janapav Hills near Mhow in Madhya Pradesh. It flows northward through deep gorges into Rajasthan, providing consistent year-round surface water flow crucial for regional irrigation, power generation, and wildlife conservation across its extended basin.

8. (A) I and II only
Luni River emerges from Nag Pahar in Ajmer and maintains potable fresh water along its course up to Balotra in Barmer. Further downstream, high soil salinity converts the river into a brackish stream. Ultimately, Luni dissipates into the marshy Rann of Kutch rather than emptying into the Gulf of Khambhat, confirming its inland character.

9. (D) An underground cistern constructed for collecting and storing rainwater.
A Tanka serves as a traditional, circular underground rainwater storage cistern widely constructed across arid household compounds. Rainwater is harvested from a clean, circular paved catchment surface surrounding the structure, directed through filters, and stored securely underground. This protected water

remains cool, unpolluted, and preserved against high evaporation losses for essential family drinking needs during long droughts.

10. (D) Southern Rajasthan
The Mahi River basin encompasses the southern region, primarily spreading across Banswara, Dungarpur, and Pratapgarh districts. Flowing through hilly tribal belts, the river forms a characteristic U-shaped loop around the region before traversing into Gujarat. Dense drainage tributaries, high seasonal rainfall, and rugged topography define this distinct southern hydrological landscape of the state.

11. (B) Excessive groundwater extraction for agricultural tube-well irrigation.
The primary cause behind declining groundwater tables and expanding dark zones is the unregulated, intensive pumping of subterranean aquifers for tube-well agriculture. Expanding cash crop cultivation without adequate artificial recharge has driven extraction far beyond natural replenishment rates, leading to severe regional water table drops, aquifer drying, and ecological distress across multiple agricultural districts.

12. (A) 2, 4, 1, 3
Along the north-flowing Chambal River, major dam structures follow a strict geographic sequence from south to north. Gandhi Sagar Dam stands upstream in Madhya Pradesh. Entering Rajasthan, the river reaches Rana Pratap Sagar Dam at Rawatbhata, followed by Jawahar Sagar Dam downstream, and finally Kota Barrage, which functions primarily as an irrigation diversion headwork in Kota city.

13. (A) Baba Ka Bhagra
Jaisamand Lake, created by damming the Gomti River, features seven prominent inhabited islands. The largest among these islands is named Baba Ka Bhagra, inhabited by local tribal communities. The smallest island in this expansive freshwater lake is named Piari. These island settlements highlight the unique cultural and geographic heritage of this historic artificial water reservoir.

14. (C) Gujarat
Although originating in the southern Aravalli hills of Udaipur district, the Sabarmati River flows for only a brief distance within state boundaries. It rapidly crosses southward into Gujarat, traversing major urban centers like Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar before discharging into the Gulf of Khambhat, making it a critical regional river basin for Gujarat's agricultural and industrial water supply.

15. (B) III only
The Indira Gandhi Canal draws water from Harike Barrage, conceived by Kanwar Sen to transform desert terrain. Besides providing extensive agricultural irrigation, the canal network serves as a critical municipal drinking water source for millions of residents across arid western districts. Intensive irrigation in command areas has caused localized soil salinity and waterlogging issues over recent decades.

16. (C) A village pond constructed to harvest surface runoff from its catchment area.
A Nadi refers to a traditional village pond excavated in natural depressions to capture surface rainwater runoff from surrounding catchment areas. Used across western desert settlements, these surface storage bodies provide essential local water for livestock, drinking, and domestic washing. Location, soil permeability, and catchment management determine the duration water remains available throughout dry months.

17. (B) Luni River system
Jawai River serves as a principal left-bank tributary within the Luni River system. Originating in the Aravalli hills of Pali district, it drains western mountain slopes before joining the main Luni trunk stream. The massive Jawai Dam constructed upon this river creates a critical water reservoir supplying municipal water and agricultural irrigation to regional drylands.

18. (D) Berach, Kothari, Khari, and Morel
The Banas River drains the eastern plains and is nourished by key tributaries including Berach, Kothari, Khari, and Morel. These streams originate along the eastern slopes of the Aravalli range and flow eastward across plateau regions, feeding the main river system before its eventual confluence with the Chambal River at Rameshwaram in Sawai Madhopur district.

19. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
Major water bodies align with distinct administrative districts. Pushkar Lake is a sacred natural water body in Ajmer. Rajsamand

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Lake lies in Rajsamand district, constructed by Maharana Raj Singh. Jaisamand Lake, a massive artificial reservoir, resides in Udaipur. Sambhar Lake spreads across the border region encompassing Jaipur Rural, Nagaur, and Ajmer districts as a major saline playa.

20. (C) Canada
The cleaning, desiltation, and environmental restoration of the sacred Pushkar Lake was undertaken with bilateral development assistance from Canada under the Pushkar Lake Conservation Project. This international partnership targeted sewage treatment, lakebed desilting, ghat repair, and ecological restoration to protect the sacred water body from urban pollution and degradation, preserving its cultural and hydrological heritage.

21. (A) Chambal Basin
The Chambal River basin is globally recognized for extensive gully erosion, resulting in severe ravine formation and badland topography. Steep hydraulic gradients, friable alluvial soils, and intense monsoon runoff dissect agricultural lands into deep, unproductive network gorges across Kota, Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, Karauli, and Dholpur districts, severely hindering regional land utilization and farming development.

22. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Within geographical classifications, Luni is categorized as an inland drainage river because its surface flow does not reach an open ocean basin. After traversing the arid western districts, the river loses momentum across flat terrain and dissipates entirely into the marshy salines of the Rann of Kutch, making the rationale behind its hydrological classification entirely factual.

23. (B) To transfer surplus monsoon water from the Chambal basin to water-deficit river basins.
The Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project is an inter-basin water transfer scheme engineered to harvest surplus seasonal monsoon water from the Chambal River and its tributaries, diverting it to thirteen water-deficit eastern districts. This initiative aims to meet long-term drinking water requirements, stabilize agricultural irrigation systems, and revive regional groundwater tables across eastern plain belts.

24. (C) Baori
A Baori, or stepwell, is an architectural subterranean water harvesting structure featuring multi-tiered stone steps leading down to the water table. Beyond providing reliable drinking water during summer months, these elaborate stepwells served historically as cool subterranean retreats, artistic monuments, and vital social hubs for community gatherings, religious rituals, and regional cultural events.

25. (D) Banswara
The Mahi Bajaj Sagar Dam stands as a major multipurpose dam constructed across the Mahi River, situated at Borkhera in Banswara district. Named after prominent freedom fighter Jamnalal Bajaj, the project provides substantial canal irrigation, hydro-electric power generation, and municipal drinking water to the predominantly tribal agrarian regions of southern Rajasthan.

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26. (A) I and II only
Banas River is the longest river flowing entirely within state borders, originating from the Khamnor Hills near Kumbhalgarh in Rajsamand district. Traversing central plains, it terminates by merging into the Chambal River near Rameshwaram in Sawai Madhopur district, rather than joining the Yamuna directly, confirming the validity of inland regional flow characteristics.

27. (B) Jaipur, Ajmer, and Tonk
Constructed across the Banas River in Toda Rai Singh, Tonk district, the Bisalpur Dam operates as a crucial water supply project. The reservoir supplies piped drinking water to major urban centers including Jaipur, Ajmer, and Tonk, alongside providing essential agricultural canal irrigation to rural farm holdings situated throughout the surrounding district boundaries.

28. (B) Tarun Bharat Sangh
Tarun Bharat Sangh, an award-winning non-governmental organization led by Rajendra Singh, spearheaded community-based water harvesting across semi-arid districts. Through building thousands of traditional check dams known as Johads, the organization successfully recharged depleted groundwater aquifers, restored natural soil moisture, and revived several dried seasonal rivers, including the Arvari, Ruparel, and Sarsa rivers.

CHAPTER 14
Natural Vegetation of Rajasthan

1. According to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021, what is the approximate total forest cover percentage of the total geographical area of Rajasthan?
(A) 7.42%
(B) 4.87%
(C) 9.60%
(D) 12.35%

2. Match the major forest types of Rajasthan (List I) with their dominant regions (List II).
List I: (Forest Type)
P. Sub-tropical Evergreen Forest
Q. Tropical Dry Teak Forest
R. Tropical Thorn Forest
S. Mixed Deciduous Forest
List II: (Region/District)
1. Banswara and Dungarpur
2. Jaisalmer and Barmer
3. Mount Abu
4. Chittorgarh and Rajsamand
(A) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4

3. What is the primary ecological characteristic of xerophytic vegetation predominantly found in western Rajasthan?
(A) Deep taproots, thorny branches, and small leaves to minimize transpiration
(B) Broad, thin foliage specifically structured to maximize sunlight absorption
(C) Aerial roots adapted to absorb moisture directly from high atmospheric humidity
(D) Soft, spongy stems adapted to survive in permanently waterlogged soil beds

4. Which geographical factor is primarily responsible for the transition from tropical dry deciduous forests in the south-east to tropical thorn forests in the north-west of Rajasthan?
(A) Gradual increase in the pH level of the soil matrix across central plains
(B) High concentration of heavy toxic metals in the western desert soils
(C) Sharp decrease in average annual rainfall moving from east to west
(D) Increased frequency of severe winter frost in the western districts

5. Consider the following statements regarding the Tropical Thorn Forests of Rajasthan:
I. They are predominantly found in the arid and semi-arid regions of western Rajasthan.
II. The vegetation consists mostly of drought-resistant species like Khejri, Rohida, and Phog.
III. These forests require an average annual rainfall of more than 100 cm.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

6. Which of the following is NOT an adaptive feature of the natural vegetation found in the Thar Desert region of Rajasthan?
(A) Extensive and deep root systems
(B) Thick bark and stunted growth
(C) Transformation of leaves into spines or thorns
(D) Broad leaves with numerous stomata

7. Consider the following statements regarding the natural vegetation of Rajasthan:
Assertion (A): The Aravalli hill range supports a relatively denser and more diverse natural vegetation compared to the western plains of Rajasthan.
Reason (R): The Aravalli hills receive higher average rainfall and have a more favorable sub-tropical climatic profile.
Select the correct answer:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

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39. (B) Khadin
Khadin is a traditional agricultural land management system developed on sloping desert terrains. Surface runoff from rocky catchments is impounded behind a lower earthen bund, forcing water to saturate the soil and deposit fertile silt. Once standing water recedes or evaporates, farmers sow crops into the deep moisture-rich soil without artificial irrigation.

40. (C) Fluoride
The Banka Patti or Kuber Patti refers to a geographical groundwater belt stretching across Nagaur and Ajmer districts, severely contaminated with high natural fluoride concentrations. Prolonged consumption of this groundwater causes widespread skeletal and dental fluorosis among residents, resulting in spinal deformities, joint stiffness, and characteristically bent physical postures across local populations.

41. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
The Banas River is traditionally named Varnasha, meaning Hope of the Forest, in ancient Sanskrit literature. However, it is not a perennial stream flowing through the Thar Desert; rather, it is a seasonal river draining the eastern Aravalli plains, drying up during dry summer months before merging into the Chambal River system.

42. (A) Mehnd Lake in the Vindhya range of Madhya Pradesh
The Mahi River originates from Mehnd Lake near Amjhera in the Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh, situated within the Vindhya mountain range. It flows north into Rajasthan before making a sharp southwest turn back towards Gujarat, forming a distinctive inverted U-shaped drainage pattern across southern tribal hill regions before discharging into the Gulf of Khambhat.

43. (B) 52
The sacred Pushkar Lake in Ajmer district is surrounded by fifty-two historic stone bathing ghats built by various royal rulers and devotees over centuries. These ghats, including the famous Brahma Ghat and Gau Ghat, serve as major pilgrim sites where thousands gather during holy lunar festivals for ritual purification dips and ceremonial evening prayers.

44. (B) Pali
Jawai Dam, widely acclaimed as the Amrit Sarovar of Marwar, is situated near Sumerpur in Pali district. Built across the Jawai River, this impressive masonry structure serves as the primary water source for municipal drinking requirements in Jodhpur and Pali cities, while providing vital irrigation water to vast agrarian stretches in the region.

45. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Traditional water harvesting structures correlate directly with regional social geographies. Khadins were perfected by the Paliwal Brahmins of Jaisalmer. Johads function as community check dams across the Shekhawati region. Tankas represent subterranean cisterns in western arid homesteads, while Jhalras serve as rectangular step-pools constructed near temples and settlements in Marwar.

46. (C) Nali
The flat, fertile riverbed of the seasonal Ghaggar River in Hanumangarh and Sriganganagar districts is locally referred to as Nali. During monsoon spates, water flows along this channel, leaving behind nutrient-rich alluvial deposits that enable intensive agricultural cultivation of wheat, cotton, and rice across these productive northern farming belts.

47. (D) Kali Sindh, Parbati, and Ahu
The right-bank tributaries joining the Chambal River in Rajasthan originate in the Malwa plateau of Madhya Pradesh and flow northward. These primary right-bank streams include Kali Sindh, Parbati, and Ahu. Conversely, left-bank tributaries like the Banas and Mej originate along the eastern Aravalli slopes, joining the main Chambal channel from the west.

48. (A) 4, 2, 3, 1
The tributaries of the Luni River join along its course in a distinct geographic order from north to south. Jojari, originating in Nagaur, is the northernmost right-bank tributary. Moving southwards along the left bank, Bandi merges first, followed by Sukri downstream, and finally Jawai joins in the southern reaches of the river basin.

49. (B) Gomti
Rajsamand Lake, constructed during the late seventeenth century by Maharana Raj Singh,

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70. (D) Som
The Som River is a principal tributary of the Mahi River system in southern Rajasthan, originating from Rishabhdev hills in Udaipur. In contrast, Jojari, Sukri, and Guhiya are integral tributaries of the Luni River system, draining western slopes of the Aravalli range before joining the main Luni channel across western drylands.

71. (B) Chambal Basin
The Parwan, Niwaj, and Ahu rivers are significant sub-tributaries belonging to the larger Chambal River basin. Originating in the Malwa plateau of Madhya Pradesh, these streams traverse the Hadoti region before feeding into the Kali Sindh River, which ultimately merges into the primary Chambal River channel near Palighat.

72. (C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Major hydraulic dams match specific rivers across the state. Bisalpur Dam is constructed on the Banas River in Tonk district. Mahi Bajaj Sagar Dam impounds the Mahi River in Banswara. Jawai Dam stands built across the Jawai River in Pali. Rana Pratap Sagar Dam operates on the Chambal River at Rawatbhata.

73. (D) Narmada Canal Project
The Narmada Canal Project in Jalore and Barmer districts is the first major canal scheme in India to mandate micro-irrigation systems, such as drip and sprinkler setups, across its entire command area. This regulatory measure enforces efficient water utilization, prevents soil degradation, and maximizes agricultural coverage across water-scarce desert farmlands.

74. (A) An earthen check dam built across a slope to capture surface runoff for groundwater recharge.
A Johad is a traditional community-built earthen check dam constructed across natural drainage slopes in the Alwar and Shekhawati regions. By capturing seasonal monsoon runoff, it slows water movement, reduces soil erosion, and promotes deep sub-surface percolation, effectively recharging local wells, raising groundwater tables, and supporting surrounding vegetation cover.

75. (B) The annual groundwater extraction exceeds the annual net groundwater recharge.
A groundwater block is designated as over-exploited when the total annual groundwater extraction exceeds the estimated annual net recharge value. This critical imbalance indicates severe groundwater depletion, causing water table decline, drying of shallow wells, and long-term risk to domestic drinking and agricultural water security throughout the designated administrative block.

76. (B) Mahi Basin
The Sujalam Sufalam campaign was a targeted water resource development initiative focused on the Mahi River basin in southern Rajasthan. The project aimed at optimizing canal network distribution, desilting water bodies, modernizing irrigation structures, and enhancing agricultural livelihood security across the tribal-dominated regions of Banswara and Dungarpur districts.

77. (A) Nand Samand Dam
In addition to the Bisalpur Dam downstream, the Nand Samand Dam, locally known as Tantol Dam, is built across the Banas River in Rajsamand district. Constructed upstream near the river's origin, this dam serves as a key irrigation and drinking water reservoir for agricultural fields and local settlements in Rajsamand.

78. (C) Chittorgarh, Kota, Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, Karauli, Dholpur
The Chambal River flows through a defined sequence of six districts after entering the state at Chaurasigarh in Chittorgarh. It traverses Kota and forms the boundary with Bundi, then flows along the borders of Sawai Madhopur, Karauli, and Dholpur before exiting the state to join the Yamuna River in Uttar Pradesh.

79. (D) Mendha, Rupangarh, Khari, and Khandela
Sambhar Lake receives surface drainage from four main seasonal rivers: Mendha, Rupangarh, Khari, and Khandela. Draining surrounding hill tracts across Jaipur Rural, Nagaur, and Sikar districts, these streams wash dissolved mineral salts into the closed lake basin, where extreme evaporation concentrates brine to sustain commercial salt harvesting operations.

80. (C) Nau Chowki Pal
The main embankment of Rajsamand Lake is called Nau Chowki Pal, named after its nine sets of broad stone step pavilions. Built with beautifully carved white marble arches, ornamental pavilions, and stone steps, this historic embankment also houses twenty-five

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Madhya Pradesh, it flows north into southern Rajasthan, forms a characteristic hairpin bend in Banswara district, and turns southwest towards Gujarat, crossing the latitude line during both upward and downward journeys.

60. (A) I, II, and IV only
The Chambal River enters Rajasthan at Chaurasigarh, carving deep gorges and defining state boundaries. It hosts major hydroelectric dams like Rana Pratap Sagar and Jawahar Sagar, contradicting claims of lacking power projects. The National Chambal Sanctuary along its course protects critically endangered aquatic species like the Gharial, Gangetic Dolphin, and Marsh Crocodile.

61. (A) Seal soil pores to maximize surface runoff and prevent seepage.
Traditional builders treated the catchment area, or Agor, of a Tanka with a smooth plaster composed of local soil, gravel, lime, and ash. This hydrophobic coating sealed earth pores, preventing water seepage into the ground, thereby maximizing smooth surface runoff from light showers directly into the subterranean storage tank.

62. (C) Banas
The Banas River originates from the eastern slopes of the Aravalli range in Rajsamand district, specifically near the Khamnor Hills close to Kumbhalgarh Fort. Flowing entirely within state boundaries, this major river drains the fertile eastern plains before completing its course by merging into the Chambal River at Rameshwaram confluence.

63. (D) Gandhi Sagar Dam
Among the four major dams built along the Chambal River cascade, Gandhi Sagar Dam is located upstream in the Mandsaur district of Madhya Pradesh. The remaining three structures—Rana Pratap Sagar Dam at Rawatbhata, Jawahar Sagar Dam, and Kota Barrage—are situated entirely within the political borders of Rajasthan.

64. (C) Udaipur
The Sabarmati River originates in the southern Aravalli hills near Tepur village in the Kotra tehsil of Udaipur district. Although its initial catchment and headwaters lie within state territory, the river flows for only forty-eight kilometers inside the state before crossing into Gujarat, where it forms a primary river system.

65. (B) Godwar Tract
The geographical and socio-cultural region comprising the south-western plains along the Luni River and its Aravalli tributaries is historically known as the Godwar tract. Covering parts of Pali, Jalore, and Sirohi districts, this semi-arid region exhibits distinct cultural traditions, linguistic dialects, and historical land-use patterns influenced by seasonal river flows.

66. (D) Dhebar Lake
Jaisamand Lake is historically known as Dhebar Lake, taking its name from the Dhebar pass where the dam was constructed across the Gomti River. Built by Maharana Jai Singh in the late seventeenth century, this massive reservoir stands as one of Asia's largest historic artificial freshwater lakes, rich in tribal heritage and biodiversity.

67. (B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
The Indira Gandhi Canal transformed arid desert districts into productive agricultural zones, greatly increasing regional crop yields. Concurrently, excessive surface irrigation without subterranean drainage has induced waterlogging and soil salinization in low-lying command areas. While both statements describe true hydrological outcomes, the second statement does not explain the initial productivity surge.

68. (C) Kartik
The famous Pushkar Fair is held annually during the Hindu lunar month of Kartik, culminating on Kartik Purnima. Thousands of pilgrims assemble at the sacred Pushkar Lake for ritual purification baths, while camel traders, cattle farmers, and tourists gather for one of India's largest traditional livestock fairs and cultural celebrations.

69. (A) Haryana
The Sabi River, an important seasonal river of the internal drainage network, originates from the Sewar Hills in Jaipur district. It flows northward through Kotputli-Behror and Alwar districts into Haryana, where its surface water dissipates across sandy plains near Gurgaon, rarely reaching any major external river trunk stream.

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was engineered by diverting and impounding the waters of the Gomti River alongside seasonal mountain rivulets. The resulting reservoir provided vital drought relief, assured agricultural irrigation, and remains a magnificent historic monument featuring carved marble embankments and historic inscriptions.

50. (D) Dhora
In traditional Khadin construction, the low earthen bund or primary embankment built across the lower edge of sloping land is called a Dhora. This cross-slope structure retains surface runoff, forcing water to submerge the field and soak deep into the soil bed, storing moisture for subsequent rabi crop cultivation without canal irrigation.

51. (A) Bhuj Lake
The Kakneya River, locally known as Masurdi, is the shortest river within the internal drainage system, flowing for roughly seventeen kilometers. Originating near Kotri village in Jaisalmer district, it creates the temporary freshwater Bhuj Lake during good monsoon rains before its shallow water channel dissipates completely into surrounding desert sand dunes.

52. (C) The natural desert slope is westwards, requiring pumping to supply eastern elevated areas.
Lift canals are vital components of the Indira Gandhi Canal network because the terrain to the east of the main canal lies at a higher elevation than the canal bed itself. Mechanical pumping stations lift water vertically into secondary distribution channels, enabling gravity-fed irrigation and drinking water supply to elevated eastern desert zones.

53. (A) I and II only
Sambhar Lake lies at the tri-junction of Jaipur, Ajmer, and Nagaur districts and accounts for over eight percent of India's total salt production. Geologically, it is a closed continental playa depression fed by seasonal streams rather than a meteorite impact crater, formed by tectonic subsidence and localized wind erosion over semi-arid geological epochs.

54. (D) Sagarmati
Upon originating from the Nag Pahar hills near Ajmer, the initial hill stream of the Luni River is called Sagarmati. It flows westward until it meets another mountain stream, the Saraswati, originating from Pushkar Lake near Govindgarh. After their confluence, the combined river stream adopts the official name Luni as it enters desert plains.

55. (B) Banas
Bisalpur Dam is a major concrete-and-masonry gravity dam constructed across the Banas River in Tonk district. The reservoir impounds monsoon runoff to serve as the chief drinking water supply source for major urban centers including Jaipur and Ajmer, while regulating agricultural canal flows across downstream farming command areas in eastern plains.

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56. (C) Agor
The catchment area surrounding a traditional Tanka is called an Agor or Paytan. Carefully cleaned, paved, and gently sloped toward the central underground opening, this smooth catchment surface maximizes surface runoff from minimal rainfall events, filtering and channeling every drop directly into the sealed storage chamber for domestic drinking use.

57. (D) Abhaneri
Chand Baori is an internationally famous stepwell situated in Abhaneri village near Dausa. Constructed in the ninth century, this architectural marvel features over three thousand five hundred narrow steps arranged in perfect geometric symmetry across thirteen subterranean levels, designed to harvest rainwater and provide a cool respite during intense desert summer heat.

58. (A) Ensure community management and equitable distribution of the rejuvenated river's water.
The Arvari Sansad, or Arvari Parliament, is a grassroots village institution established to manage the water resources of the revived Arvari River in Alwar district. Comprising representatives from local villages, this informal parliament regulates water usage, prevents over-extraction, bans pollution, and ensures equitable distribution of water resources across the entire rejuvenated watershed.

59. (B) It is the only river in Rajasthan that crosses the Tropic of Cancer twice.
The Mahi River holds a unique geographic distinction as the only river in India that crosses the Tropic of Cancer twice. Originating in

marble slabs featuring the famous Raj Prashasti historic inscriptions.

81. (A) I and II only
Jaisamand Lake is a historic artificial lake created by damming the Gomti River, featuring several inhabited islands home to local Bhil and Meena tribes. However, the famous Ranakpur Jain Temples are located in Pali district within the Aravalli valley, completely separate from the island geographical structures of Jaisamand Lake.

82. (D) Alwar and Bharatpur
The Ruparel River, also known as Varaha River, originates in the Thanagazi hills of Alwar district. Belonging to the internal drainage network, it flows through Alwar into Bharatpur district, where its waters were historically channeled via the Sujan Ganga canal to fill the defensive moat surrounding the historic Lohagarh Fort.

83. (A) Chaurasigarh
The Chambal River enters Rajasthan from Madhya Pradesh at Chaurasigarh, situated near Rawatbhata in Chittorgarh district. Markedly entering a deep rocky gorge shortly after crossing the border, the river forms a dramatic channel cut through sandstone plateaus, creating ideal conditions for major dam building and reservoir storage downstream.

84. (C) Paliwal Brahmins
The Khadin system of runoff agriculture was developed in the fifteenth century by the Paliwal Brahmins of Jaisalmer. Their deep understanding of arid hydrology enabled them to transform hyper-arid rocky terrains into productive agricultural fields, utilizing bunded catchments to store surface runoff and preserve soil moisture for dry-season crop cultivation.

85. (C) IV only
Tankas, Johads, and Khadins represent traditional rainwater harvesting systems rooted in historical indigenous water management practices across arid districts. A Nadi is not a modern concrete structure from the canal era; rather, it is an ancient earthen village pond constructed across desert depressions to collect surface monsoon runoff for local community use.

86. (D) Kotda border
Originating in the southern Aravalli hills of Udaipur district, the Sabarmati River flows south through Kotda tehsil. It exits the state boundary and enters Sabarkantha district in Gujarat near the Kotda border area, leaving behind a brief upstream course to become a primary water supply river for Gujarat's agricultural and urban centers.

87. (C) About 65%
The Luni River spans a total length of approximately 495 kilometers from its source at Nag Pahar to its mouth in the Rann of Kutch. Roughly 330 kilometers, or approximately sixty-five percent of its entire course, traverses through western districts of Rajasthan before crossing into Banaskantha district in neighboring Gujarat.

88. (C) Promoting participatory groundwater management to arrest depletion.
Atal Bhujal Yojana is a central sector scheme focused on improving groundwater management through community participation in water-stressed districts. Implemented across select water-scarce blocks, the initiative emphasizes village-level water security planning, demand-side water management, micro-irrigation practices, and behavioral change to halt declining groundwater tables and protect local aquifers.

89. (D) Berach and Menal
A notable Triveni Sangam, or triple river confluence, occurs near Bigod in Bhilwara district, where the Berach and Menal rivers join the main channel of the Banas River. This hydrologically significant junction forms a major water body in the eastern plains and serves as a sacred cultural site for local communities.

90. (A) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
The Rajasthan Water Sector Livelihood Improvement Project is financially supported by the Japan International Cooperation Agency. The project focuses on rehabilitating medium and minor irrigation infrastructure, improving water distribution efficiency, empowering Water User Associations, and promoting modern agricultural practices to enhance rural livelihoods across multiple districts in the state.

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29. (B) Banas, Luni, Chambal, Mahi
Ranking major river basins by total catchment area strictly contained within state borders places the Banas basin first, covering approximately twenty-seven percent of state area. Luni basin follows second across western districts, while Chambal ranks third due to significant upper basin territory lying in Madhya Pradesh. Mahi basin covers the smallest geographic area among these four networks.

30. (C) To make villages self-reliant in water through decentralized harvesting and community action.
The Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan was launched as a flagship program to achieve rural water self-sufficiency through decentralized water conservation. Integrating traditional water structures like Johads, Tankas, and Nadis with modern engineering, the initiative mobilized community participation, afforestation, and runoff harvesting to ensure permanent drought resilience across rural village communities.

31. (D) Shekhawati region
The Kantli River forms a primary seasonal stream of the inland drainage network, originating in the Khandela Hills of Sikar district. It flows northward through Sikar and Jhunjhunu districts across the historic Shekhawati region before disappearing into sand dunes near the Churu border, playing a crucial historic role in nourishing ancient riverine settlements like Ganeshwar.

32. (C) Rawatbhata
The Rana Pratap Sagar Dam is situated at Rawatbhata in Chittorgarh district along the Chambal River. Boasting the largest water storage capacity among all dams in the state, this multipurpose structure plays a key role in regional hydroelectric generation, flood control, and supplying water to nearby municipal and nuclear power station facilities.

33. (B) Maharana Jai Singh
Jaisamand Lake, also historical known as Dhebar Lake, was commissioned and constructed by Maharana Jai Singh of Mewar between 1685 and 1691. Built by damming the Gomti River, this massive water storage project was executed to provide reliable agricultural irrigation, mitigate regional famine conditions, and secure water reserves for local communities.

34. (D) Mahi River system
Som and Jakham rivers function as major tributaries within the Mahi River system. Originating in the southern Aravalli hills, these streams flow through dense forests before converging with the main Mahi River at Beneshwar Dham in Dungarpur district, forming a sacred river confluence revered as a major socio-religious site by local tribal populations.

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35. (A) A Johad is an earthen check dam for groundwater recharge, while a Tanka is an underground cistern.
A Johad is an open earthen check dam constructed across a sloping surface to capture monsoon runoff, allowing slow soil percolation to recharge surrounding groundwater tables. Conversely, a Tanka is a enclosed masonry underground cistern engineered strictly to store clean harvested rainwater for direct domestic drinking purposes, minimizing evaporation losses completely.

36. (C) Raj Prashasti
The Raj Prashasti is a famous historic inscription carved across twenty-five polished black marble slabs mounted on the Nau Chowki embankment of Rajsamand Lake. Authored by Ranchhod Bhatt under Maharana Raj Singh, it details the history of Mewar and is celebrated as the longest stone inscription in India, combining historical records with poetic literature.

37. (A) Sabarmati
Wakal, Hathmati, Meshwa, and Vetrak serve as major left-bank tributaries feeding the Sabarmati River system. These streams originate along the southern slopes of the Aravalli range in Udaipur district, collecting hilly runoff before crossing southward to join the primary Sabarmati river channel as it flows across the plains of neighboring Gujarat state.

38. (B) III only
The Atal Bhujal Yojana is a central scheme focused on community-managed groundwater management rather than dam construction. The Dewas project transfers inter-basin water to Udaipur, urban mandatory rainwater harvesting laws apply to large plots, and community institutions like Arvari Sansad successfully oversee participatory water resource management, demonstrating decentralized water governance models.

8. According to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021, which district in Rajasthan has the highest total forest cover area?
(A) Pratapgarh
(B) Alwar
(C) Udaipur
(D) Baran

9. Arrange the following districts of Rajasthan in descending order based on their total forest cover area according to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021:
1. Pratapgarh
2. Udaipur
3. Baran
4. Alwar

Which of the following is the correct sequence?
(A) 2, 4, 1, 3
(B) 2, 1, 4, 3
(C) 4, 2, 3, 1
(D) 2, 4, 3, 1

10. Which of the following tree species is valued primarily for high-quality timber rather than non-timber forest produce (NTFP)?
(A) Teak (Sagwan)
(B) Tendu
(C) Khair
(D) Mahua

11. Read the following statements carefully regarding the vegetation of Rajasthan:
Statement I: Dry deciduous forests shed their leaves during the dry summer months to conserve moisture.
Statement II: Tropical thorn forests remain green throughout the year due to high groundwater tables in western Rajasthan.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct.

12. What is the scientific name of the State Flower of Rajasthan, Rohida?
(A) Prosopis cineraria
(B) Tecomella undulata
(C) Butea monosperma
(D) Acacia nilotica

13. Consider the following statements regarding the State Tree and State Flower of Rajasthan:
I. Khejri was declared the State Tree of Rajasthan in 1983.
II. Rohida was declared the State Flower of Rajasthan in 1983.
III. Both species naturally thrive in the arid and semi-arid ecosystems of the state.
IV. The scientific name of the State Tree is Prosopis juliflora.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, II and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

14. Which factor most limits the growth of broad-leaved deciduous forests in the districts of Jaisalmer and Bikaner?
(A) Excessive humidity and fungal diseases
(B) High altitude and steep slopes
(C) Scarcity of rainfall and high rate of evaporation
(D) Over-saturation of soils leading to waterlogging

15. Sub-tropical evergreen forests occupy the smallest percentage of forest area in Rajasthan. Where are they exclusively found?
(A) Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary
(B) Ranthambore National Park
(C) Desert National Park
(D) Mount Abu region

16. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the natural vegetation of Rajasthan:
(A) Salar forests are mainly found in the Aravalli ranges of Udaipur, Rajsamand, and Chittorgarh.
(B) Teak forests in Rajasthan are restricted to the southern districts due to freezing winter temperatures in the north.
(C) Bamboo is classified as a major timber tree and its extraction is prohibited under all circumstances.
(D) Dhauk (Anogeissus pendula) is the most widespread tree species in the state.

17. The Bishnoi community of Rajasthan is historically renowned for the conservation of nature and wildlife. Who was the founder of this community?
(A) Jasnathji
(B) Jambhoji

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Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct.

71. Which of the following is NOT a primary objective of the Social Forestry initiatives in Rajasthan?
(A) To fulfill the urgent local demands for fuelwood, fodder, and small structural timber
(B) To establish exclusive commercial timber monocultures for export markets
(C) To create public recreational green belts for local urban and rural populations
(D) To reduce human pressure on natural, traditionally protected forest reserves

72. Which resilient tree is popularly referred to as the 'Kalpavriksha of the Thar Desert' due to its immense socio-economic and ecological utility?
(A) Rohida
(B) Babool
(C) Khejri
(D) Neem

73. Consider the following statements about Rajasthan's forest statistics according to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021:
I. The total forest cover of Rajasthan is 4.87% of its geographical area.
II. Udaipur district has the maximum forest cover area in the state.
III. Churu district has the minimum forest cover area in the state.
IV. The percentage of Unclassed forest is the highest among all legal forest categories in the state.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) II, III and IV only
(C) I, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

74. In the context of Rajasthan's traditional land-use systems, what is the primary function of 'Gauchar' lands?
(A) Village common lands maintained for livestock grazing
(B) Commercial agricultural farming zones leased directly by the state government
(C) Sacred spiritual areas where any human entry or activity is completely banned
(D) State-designated industrial mining zones reserved for stone extraction

75. The Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Project (RFBP), aimed at poverty alleviation and ecological restoration, was implemented with the financial assistance of which international agency?
(A) World Bank
(B) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
(C) Asian Development Bank (ADB)
(D) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

76. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the forest profile of Rajasthan:
(A) The state has a highly uneven distribution of forest cover, with western districts having negligible forests.
(B) Rajasthan ranks among top Indian states in Very Dense Forest (VDF) area.
(C) Banswara and Dungarpur districts serve as major prominent regions for dry teak forest cover.
(D) The Aravalli mountain range acts as a barrier preventing the eastward expansion of desert vegetation.

77. Butea monosperma is an ecologically significant tree in Rajasthan. By what local name is it most commonly known?
(A) Palash / Dhak
(B) Khejri / Shami
(C) Khair / Katha
(D) Dhauk

78. Which of the following districts is the odd one out, as it does NOT fall under the major Southern Rajasthan forest division characterized by dry deciduous and teak forests?
(A) Udaipur
(B) Banswara
(C) Jaisalmer
(D) Dungarpur

79. Consider the following statements regarding medicinal species in Rajasthan:
Statement I: Guggal (Commiphora wightii) is a critically threatened medicinal plant found in

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Prosopis juliflora

27. Consider the following statements regarding desert vegetation adaptation in Rajasthan:
Assertion (A): Trees in the western arid region of Rajasthan typically possess long taproots, thick bark, and small or waxy leaves.
Reason (R): These structural adaptations help the vegetation maximize transpiration and water loss during extreme summer heat.
Select the correct answer:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

28. The 'Van Mahotsav' initiative, which plays a key role in raising awareness about planting trees in Rajasthan and across India, was initiated by which leader in 1950?
(A) Sundarlal Bahuguna
(B) K.M. Munshi
(C) Vinoba Bhave
(D) Medha Patkar

29. What is the scientific name of the Khejri tree, the State Tree of Rajasthan?
(A) Prosopis cineraria
(B) Tecomella undulata
(C) Acacia nilotica
(D) Ziziphus mauritiana

30. Consider the following statements regarding livestock grazing in Rajasthan:
Statement I: Overgrazing in the western districts of Rajasthan leads to soil compaction and increased susceptibility to wind erosion.
Statement II: Restricted rotational grazing on designated pasture lands helps in ecological restoration and sustainable fodder supply.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct.

31. Livan, Dhaman, Karad, and Anjan are primarily names of:
(A) Traditional rainwater conservation structures built in arid desert settlements
(B) Rare medicinal tree species found exclusively in the Mount Abu sanctuary
(C) Traditional local festivals associated directly with ancient tree worship rituals
(D) Highly nutritious grasses found in arid and semi-arid Rajasthan regions

32. Which of the following pairs of trees and their associated common names is incorrectly matched?
(A) Boswellia serrata – Salar
(B) Anogeissus pendula – Dhauk
(C) Diospyros melanoxylon – Rohida
(D) Acacia catechu – Khair

33. Consider the following statements regarding the Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests of Rajasthan:
I. They are mainly concentrated in the southern and south-eastern parts of the state.
II. The dominant tree species include Teak, Dhauk, and Salar.
III. They thrive in regions receiving an average annual rainfall between 50 cm and 100 cm.
IV. These forests represent the largest proportion of reserved forest area in Rajasthan.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) II, III and IV only
(C) I, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

34. Many desert plants in Rajasthan exhibit "sunken stomata." What is the primary ecological purpose of this adaptation?
(A) To increase the rate of photosynthesis during the night
(B) To facilitate rapid absorption of surface dew
(C) To excrete excess salts absorbed from the alkaline soil
(D) To reduce the rate of water loss through transpiration

35. Which specific type of vegetation is dominant on the slopes of the Aravalli mountains at an altitude between 700 meters and 1000 meters?
(A) Mixed Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest
(B) Sub-tropical High Altitude Evergreen Forest
(C) Open Tropical Desert Scrub Vegetation
(D) Moist Alpine Grasslands and Mountain Meadows

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36. Under the legal classification of forests in Rajasthan, approximately what percentage of the total recorded forest area falls under the "Reserved Forest" category?
(A) 6%
(B) 25%
(C) 37%
(D) 56%

37. What is the most significant ecological contribution of the community-conserved Orans in Rajasthan?
(A) They act as micro-reserves preserving biodiversity and aiding groundwater recharge.
(B) They serve as the primary source of commercial timber generation for state revenue.
(C) They are exclusively reserved for intensive agricultural cultivation by panchayats.
(D) They prevent the natural spread of native grasses to promote exotic tree species.

38. In which of the following districts would you LEAST expect to find natural Tropical Dry Teak forests?
(A) Banswara
(B) Dungarpur
(C) Pratapgarh
(D) Bikaner

39. Which of the following is NOT primarily known as a medicinal plant naturally occurring in the forests of Rajasthan?
(A) Ashwagandha
(B) Tendu
(C) Guggal
(D) Sonamukhi

40. Consider the following statements regarding climate change impacts on Rajasthan's vegetation:
Statement I: An increase in average ambient temperatures and prolonged dry spells may lead to a shift in vegetation zones, threatening drought-sensitive species.
Statement II: Climate change is expected to drastically increase the density of sub-tropical evergreen forests across the Thar Desert.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct.

41. The historic Khejarli massacre, where 363 Bishnois sacrificed their lives to protect Khejri trees under the leadership of Amrita Devi, occurred in which year?
(A) 1604
(B) 1730
(C) 1857
(D) 1972

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42. Match the Non-Timber Forest Produces (NTFPs) of Rajasthan (List I) with their primary economic use (List II).
List I: (Produce)
P. Tendu Leaves
Q. Khus Grass
R. Khair Wood Extract
S. Mahua Flowers
List II: (Primary Use)
1. Bidi manufacturing
2. Essential oils and cooling mats
3. Katha production
4. Country liquor and edible use
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(D) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4

43. Khus grass, famous for its aromatic roots used in making perfumes and cooling mats, is predominantly found in which group of districts in Rajasthan?
(A) Jaisalmer, Barmer, Bikaner
(B) Sawai Madhopur, Bharatpur, Tonk
(C) Udaipur, Dungarpur, Banswara
(D) Sikar, Jhunjhunu, Churu

44. What is the primary ecological concern associated with the widespread plantation of Prosopis juliflora (Vilayati Babul) in Rajasthan?
(A) It attracts widespread illegal logging operations due to its commercial timber value.
(B) It is an invasive species suppressing native flora and lowering water tables.
(C) It requires excessive artificial surface irrigation, severely depleting canal waters.
(D) Its foliage contains extreme toxins that are immediately fatal to domestic cattle.

45. Consider the following statements concerning Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) in Rajasthan:
I. Tendu leaves are primarily used as wrappers in the bidi-making industry.
II. Katha is traditionally extracted from the bark and heartwood of the Khair tree by the Kathodi tribe.
III. The state government prohibits the collection of minor forest produce by local tribes to prevent forest degradation.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

46. In which year were both the Khejri tree and the Rohida flower officially declared as the State Tree and State Flower of Rajasthan, respectively?
(A) 1972
(B) 1983
(C) 1988
(D) 1992

47. Consider the following statements regarding forest restoration in Rajasthan:
Assertion (A): The Aravalli Afforestation Project was crucial in restoring degraded forest lands along the Aravalli ranges.
Reason (R): The project aimed to check desertification, meet the fuel and fodder needs of local communities, and enhance ecological stability.
Select the correct answer:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

48. Which of the following is the most accurate distinction between a National Park and a sacred grove (Oran) in Rajasthan?
(A) A National Park permits unregulated human settlements, whereas an Oran prohibits human presence entirely.
(B) A National Park focuses primarily on commercial timber, whereas an Oran caters strictly to eco-tourism.
(C) A National Park has state legal protection, whereas an Oran is conserved through community faith.
(D) A National Park contains only evergreen forests, whereas an Oran contains exclusively desert scrubland.

49. Which of the following statements about the Joint Forest Management (JFM) structure in Rajasthan is incorrect?
(A) It functions through Village Forest Protection and Management Committees (VFPMCs).
(B) Local communities are granted total ownership and right to sell protected forest land to private builders.
(C) It is a participatory approach between the forest department and the local community.
(D) Communities receive a share in the benefits from the non-timber forest produce and timber yields in return for forest protection.

50. The leaves of which plant are extensively collected by local forest dwellers in southern Rajasthan for the bidi industry?
(A) Dhauk (Anogeissus pendula)
(B) Palash (Butea monosperma)
(C) Khair (Acacia catechu)
(D) Tendu (Diospyros melanoxylon)

51. Consider the following statements regarding the vegetation on the Aravalli hills:
Statement I: The eastern slopes of the Aravalli hills generally support denser and taller vegetation compared to the western slopes.
Statement II: The eastern slopes receive higher amounts of rainfall from the south-west monsoon compared to the rain-shadowed western slopes.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct.

52. The Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), which plays a vital role in studying and managing the desert ecosystem and vegetation of Rajasthan, is located in which city?
(A) Bikaner
(B) Jaipur
(C) Jodhpur
(D) Udaipur

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(C) Dadu Dayalji
(D) Ramdevji

18. Which of the following is the correct sequence of Rajasthan's legal forest categories arranged in descending order of their total area percentage?
(A) Reserved Forest, Protected Forest, Unclassed Forest
(B) Protected Forest, Reserved Forest, Unclassed Forest
(C) Unclassed Forest, Protected Forest, Reserved Forest
(D) Protected Forest, Unclassed Forest, Reserved Forest

19. In which year was the comprehensive Rajasthan Forest Act enacted to consolidate the laws relating to forests and the transit of forest produce in the state?
(A) 1949
(B) 1953
(C) 1972
(D) 1980

20. Which of the following best describes the primary objective of the Joint Forest Management (JFM) programme in Rajasthan?
(A) To privatize public forest lands for commercial timber extraction by corporations
(B) To evict indigenous tribal populations from protected areas for eco-tourism
(C) To involve local communities in protecting and managing degraded forest lands
(D) To clear natural woodland tracts for expanding large-scale agricultural farms

21. Which tree species, characterized by its bright red flowers in the spring, is widely known as the "Flame of the Forest" in Rajasthan?
(A) Butea monosperma (Palash/Dhak)
(B) Boswellia serrata (Salar)
(C) Tectona grandis (Teak)
(D) Diospyros melanoxylon (Tendu)

22. Match the botanical names of trees (List I) with their common local names in Rajasthan (List II).
List I: (Botanical Name)
P. Prosopis cineraria
Q. Tecomella undulata
R. Butea monosperma
S. Acacia catechu
List II: (Common Name)
1. Rohida
2. Khair
3. Khejri
4. Palash
(A) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

23. According to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021, which district in Rajasthan recorded the lowest total forest cover area?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Churu
(C) Hanumangarh
(D) Ganganagar

24. Which of the following statements is true regarding Salar (Boswellia serrata) forests in Rajasthan?
(A) They are primarily found in the waterlogged plains along the Indira Gandhi Canal region.
(B) Salar wood is exceptionally hard and exclusively utilized for heavy structural construction.
(C) They are mainly concentrated on upper ridges of the Aravalli hills in southern Rajasthan.
(D) Salar trees are halophytes that grow exclusively in the highly saline soils of Sambhar lake.

25. Consider the following statements concerning Orans and Gauchar lands in Rajasthan:
I. Orans are sacred groves dedicated to local deities where the cutting of trees is culturally prohibited.
II. Gauchar refers to community grazing lands meant for sustaining local livestock.
III. Both Orans and Gauchar lands are heavily utilized for commercial timber logging by the state government.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

26. Which of the following activities is NOT considered a threat to the natural vegetation and forest cover of Rajasthan?
(A) Implementation of silviculture and afforestation practices
(B) Unregulated grazing by local livestock
(C) Encroachment for agricultural expansion
(D) Proliferation of invasive alien species like

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List II: (District)
1. Alwar
2. Jaisalmer
3. Pratapgarh
4. Bharatpur

(A) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

63. What is the most severe anthropogenic threat currently facing the fragile desert vegetation and grasslands of western Rajasthan?
(A) Acid rain caused by severe regional industrial chemical pollution
(B) Extensive illegal logging of trees for high-quality export timber
(C) Rapid depletion of native vegetation due to shifting cultivation practices
(D) Overgrazing by livestock herds exceeding ecosystem carrying capacity

64. What is the primary aim of ecological restoration projects undertaken on degraded lands in Rajasthan?
(A) To clear the land of all wild vegetation to establish special economic zones
(B) To permanently introduce exotic ornamental plants to improve aesthetics
(C) To re-establish the structural and functional integrity of the native ecosystem
(D) To convert all semi-arid grasslands into intensive water-guzzling agricultural farms

65. Consider the following statements regarding the Joint Forest Management (JFM) programme in Rajasthan:
I. It aims to rehabilitate degraded forests by partnering with local communities.
II. Village Forest Protection and Management Committees (VFPMCs) are the institutional bodies that execute JFM at the grassroots level.
III. The programme strictly bans locals from collecting any dry fuelwood or minor forest produce as an incentive for protection.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

66. The Khejri tree is highly revered in Rajasthan and is traditionally worshipped during which major festival?
(A) Holi
(B) Diwali
(C) Makar Sankranti
(D) Dussehra (Vijayadashami)

67. Consider the following statements regarding desert ecosystem conservation in Rajasthan:
Assertion (A): Sand dune stabilization is a critical component of ecological restoration in western Rajasthan.
Reason (R): Stabilizing sand dunes with vegetation such as Sevan grass and xerophytic shrubs prevents the eastward expansion of the desert.
Select the correct answer:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

68. If a botanist travels from Jaisalmer to Banswara, which generalized sequence of major natural vegetation types is she most likely to observe?
(A) Tropical Dry Teak Forest → Sub-tropical Evergreen Forest → Tropical Thorn Forest
(B) Tropical Thorn Forest → Mixed Deciduous Forest → Tropical Dry Teak Forest
(C) Mixed Deciduous Forest → Tropical Thorn Forest → Sub-tropical Evergreen Forest
(D) Tropical Thorn Forest → Sub-tropical Evergreen Forest → Mixed Deciduous Forest

69. Based on the legal classification of forest area in Rajasthan, which category covers the highest percentage of the state's total recorded forest area?
(A) Protected Forests
(B) Reserved Forests
(C) Unclassed Forests
(D) Community Forests

70. Consider the following statements regarding Van Mahotsav:
Statement I: Van Mahotsav is an annual tree-planting festival celebrated across India in the first week of July to promote green cover.
Statement II: In Rajasthan, this festival involves mass participation of citizens, NGOs, and the forest department in afforestation drives.

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(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct.

89. Arrange the following events related to forest and environmental conservation in Rajasthan in chronological order (earliest to latest):
1. Khejarli village massacre for saving trees
2. Declaration of Khejri as the State Tree
3. Enactment of the comprehensive Rajasthan Forest Act
4. Launch of the Aravalli Afforestation Project

Which of the following is the correct sequence?
(A) 1, 3, 2, 4
(B) 1, 2, 3, 4
(C) 3, 1, 2, 4
(D) 1, 3, 4, 2

90. According to the Champion and Seth classification of forest types (1968), into how many major forest type groups is the natural vegetation of Rajasthan broadly categorized?
(A) Five
(B) Two
(C) Three
(D) Eight

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the arid and semi-arid tracts of Rajasthan.
Statement II: The unscientific and destructive tapping methods for extracting its oleo-gum resin have led to a severe decline in its natural population.
Choose the correct option:
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
(C) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.
(D) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct.

80. A specific type of highly nutritious grass found predominantly in the Lathi Series region of Jaisalmer district, which forms excellent pasture for livestock, is called:
(A) Khus
(B) Bamboo
(C) Sevan
(D) Munj

81. The heartwood of the Khair tree (Acacia catechu) is historically and commercially utilized by local tribal communities in Rajasthan to produce which item?
(A) Gum Arabic
(B) Katha
(C) Bidi
(D) Essential Oil

82. What is the best definition of "Unclassed Forests" as categorized by the Rajasthan Forest Department?
(A) Forests that are completely owned and managed directly by private international corporations
(B) Forests that are strictly restricted from public entry, permitting no human interference or grazing
(C) Forested land areas situated exclusively inside officially recognized National Parks and reserves
(D) Unrecorded legal forests where grazing and tree felling are permitted unless prohibited

83. Which of the following pairs regarding afforestation and conservation initiatives in Rajasthan is incorrectly matched?
(A) Project Tiger Launch in Rajasthan – 2010
(B) Van Mahotsav – Initiated in 1950
(C) Aravalli Afforestation Project – Assisted by Japan (OECF)
(D) Khejri declared State Tree – 1983

84. Which of the following is the most direct consequence of uncontrolled overgrazing on the natural vegetation of western Rajasthan?
(A) Uncontrolled accelerated regeneration of sub-tropical mountain evergreen species
(B) Significant long-term increase in organic soil fertility due to excess livestock dung
(C) Loss of grass cover causing severe soil erosion and desertification
(D) Substantial artificial rise in the local unconfined regional groundwater water table

85. Though Rajasthan has very little 'Very Dense Forest' (VDF), which district contains the maximum area of VDF in the state according to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021?
(A) Alwar
(B) Churu
(C) Jaisalmer
(D) Barmer

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86. Which of the following exotic or invasive species is generally NOT found natively thriving in the traditional, well-preserved sacred groves (Orans) of Rajasthan?
(A) Khejri (Prosopis cineraria)
(B) Peepal (Ficus religiosa)
(C) Banyan (Ficus benghalensis)
(D) Vilayati Babul (Prosopis juliflora)

87. What was the core objective of the 'Green Rajasthan' campaign?
(A) To systematically promote synthetic green bio-fertilizers across agricultural sectors
(B) To boost state forest cover via massive public afforestation drives
(C) To harvest and export surplus timber produce directly to neighboring state markets
(D) To paint all public government office buildings green for improved thermal insulation

88. Consider the following statements regarding the Aravalli range in Rajasthan:
Statement I: The Aravalli hills serve as a significant ecological divide, checking the eastward advancement of the Thar Desert.
Statement II: Extensive deforestation and mining gaps in the Aravalli ranges are accelerating the process of desertification into the eastern plains.
Choose the correct option:

53. Consider the following statements regarding the medicinal plants of Rajasthan:
I. Guggal is highly valued for its medicinal resin, which has anti-inflammatory properties.
II. Ashwagandha roots are commercially cultivated and collected for their use in traditional medicine.
III. Aloe Vera is well-adapted to the semi-arid climate and requires minimal irrigation.
IV. Sonamukhi (Senna) is extensively grown in the western arid regions for export purposes.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, III and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

54. Which of the following tree species is NOT classified as part of Rajasthan's natural dry deciduous forest ecosystem?
(A) Salar (Boswellia serrata)
(B) Dhauk (Anogeissus pendula)
(C) Teak (Tectona grandis)
(D) Sundari (Heritiera fomes)

55. The Arid Forest Research Institute (AFRI), an important institution for forestry research in Rajasthan, is headquartered at:
(A) Jaisalmer
(B) Jodhpur
(C) Bikaner
(D) Ajmer

56. What ecological principle explains the presence of broad-leaved trees in southern Rajasthan and small-leaved or thorny plants in western Rajasthan?
(A) Broad leaves in the south absorb heavy soil metal toxins, whereas western desert soils are completely toxin-free.
(B) High wind speeds across southern hills require broad leaves to ensure structural aerodynamic stability.
(C) Broad leaves optimize photosynthesis with moisture, while small leaves cut water loss in arid areas.
(D) Small leaves in the west serve as a specialized structural adaptation to resist severe winter snowfall.

57. The Salar tree (Boswellia serrata), found in the Aravalli belt, is economically significant primarily for the extraction of:
(A) Processed Katha extract utilized in commercial pan production
(B) High-grade structural timber utilized for marine shipbuilding
(C) Highly concentrated aromatic essential oils for fine perfumes
(D) Natural resin (gum) and soft wood for making packing cases

58. Identify the correct sequence of districts in Rajasthan with the lowest forest cover area arranged in ascending order (lowest to highest) according to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021:
(A) Hanumangarh, Churu, Jodhpur, Ganganagar
(B) Churu, Hanumangarh, Jodhpur, Ganganagar
(C) Churu, Jodhpur, Hanumangarh, Ganganagar
(D) Jodhpur, Churu, Hanumangarh, Ganganagar

59. What is the scientific name of the Mahua tree, whose flowers are culturally and economically important to the tribal populations of southern Rajasthan?
(A) Azadirachta indica
(B) Madhuca longifolia
(C) Ficus benghalensis
(D) Tamarindus indica

60. Which of the following species is the odd one out, as it is a tree species, whereas the others are prominent grasses found in the arid regions of Rajasthan?
(A) Sevan
(B) Rohida
(C) Dhaman
(D) Karad

61. Which of the following pairs of non-timber forest produce (NTFP) and its source plant is incorrectly matched?
(A) Katha – Butea monosperma (Palash)
(B) Gum (Gond) – Acacia senegal (Kummat)
(C) Bidi wrapping – Diospyros melanoxylon (Tendu)
(D) Aromatic root – Chrysopogon zizanioides (Khus)

62. Match the major wildlife reserves of Rajasthan (List I) with their corresponding district (List II).
List I: (Reserve)
P. Sita Mata Wildlife Sanctuary
Q. Sariska Tiger Reserve
R. Keoladeo National Park
S. Desert National Park

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ANSWERS

1. (B) 4.87%
According to the India State of Forest Report 2021, the recorded forest cover of Rajasthan stands at 16,654.96 square kilometers. This total forested expanse constitutes approximately 4.87 percent of the state's total geographical area of 342,239 square kilometers. The state maintains a relatively low forest density due to vast arid and semi-arid desert terrains across western districts.

2. (D) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
Sub-tropical evergreen forests in Rajasthan are exclusively confined to the high-altitude region of Mount Abu. Tropical dry teak forests occur predominantly in southern districts like Banswara and Dungarpur. Tropical thorn vegetation dominates arid western districts including Jaisalmer and Barmer. Meanwhile, mixed deciduous forests flourish across the southern and south-eastern Aravalli belt, including Chittorgarh and Rajsamand districts.

3. (A) Deep taproots, thorny branches, and small leaves to minimize transpiration
Xerophytic plants in western Rajasthan possess specialized anatomical adaptations to endure extreme aridity and high thermal stress. They develop deep taproot systems to reach deeply buried sub-surface groundwater reserves. Furthermore, their leaves are reduced to small structures, scales, or sharp spines, accompanied by thick waxy cuticles and thorny branches, significantly reducing water loss from excessive transpiration.

4. (C) Sharp decrease in average annual rainfall moving from east to west
The distribution of vegetation types across Rajasthan is primarily controlled by the sharp precipitation gradient across the state. South-eastern regions receive higher annual rainfall exceeding 80 cm, supporting dense tropical dry deciduous forests. Moving towards the north-western districts, annual precipitation decreases sharply below 30 cm, causing a gradual climatic transition toward drought-tolerant tropical thorn forests and desert scrub.

5. (A) I and II only
Tropical thorn forests are characteristic of the arid and semi-arid tracts of western Rajasthan where annual precipitation remains below 50 cm. Key xerophytic tree species forming this vegetation cover include Khejri, Rohida, Phog, Kair, and Acacia. Regions receiving over 100 cm of rainfall support moist or evergreen vegetation, making high moisture requirements inappropriate for tropical thorn species.

6. (D) Broad leaves with numerous stomata
Thar Desert plants exhibit xerophytic features designed to minimize moisture loss under severe drought conditions. Common adaptations include extensive deep roots, thick corky bark, stunted growth, and leaves modified into sharp spines or waxy scales. Broad leaves with abundant stomata maximize transpiration loss, which contradicts desert plant survival mechanisms and is absent in desert flora.

7. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Aravalli mountain range acts as an orographic barrier in central Rajasthan, receiving significantly higher annual rainfall than the flat western desert plains. The elevated topography creates favorable sub-tropical climatic conditions, higher relative humidity, and better soil moisture retention, directly enabling the growth of much denser, taller, and species-rich dry deciduous and mixed forest vegetation.

8. (C) Udaipur
According to the India State of Forest Report 2021, Udaipur district possesses the maximum forest cover area in Rajasthan, covering approximately 2,753.39 square kilometers. The district benefits from the southern Aravalli hill ranges, higher annual monsoonal rainfall, and favorable ecological conditions that sustain dense dry deciduous, Salar, and mixed forest vegetation across its undulating terrain.

9. (A) 2, 4, 1, 3
Based on the India State of Forest Report 2021, Udaipur leads Rajasthan with the highest forest cover at around 2,753 square kilometers.

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legislation like the Wildlife Protection Act, backed by official law enforcement. In contrast, an Oran is a community-managed sacred grove conserved traditionally through religious faith, cultural taboos, and local spiritual reverence without relying on formal state statutory legal enforcement.

49. (B) Local communities are granted total ownership and right to sell protected forest land to private builders.
Joint Forest Management operates as a collaborative partnership between state forest departments and local village committees for forest protection and eco-restoration. Ownership of forest land remains entirely with the government. Local communities receive usufruct rights to gather non-timber forest produce and a share of timber harvests, but cannot sell public forest land.

50. (D) Tendu (Diospyros melanoxylon)
The leaves of Tendu (Diospyros melanoxylon) are harvested extensively by tribal dwellers in southern Rajasthan districts like Udaipur, Banswara, and Dungarpur. Due to their size, pliable texture, heat resistance, and burn quality, Tendu leaves are the primary raw material used for wrapping bidis in the commercial cottage bidi industry.

51. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
The eastern slopes of the Aravalli hills receive substantially higher precipitation from the south-west monsoon than the western rain-shadowed slopes. This higher moisture availability enables the growth of denser, taller, and more diverse dry deciduous vegetation on eastern slopes, whereas the drier western slopes predominantly support sparse, drought-tolerant xerophytic desert scrub.

52. (C) Jodhpur
The Central Arid Zone Research Institute is a premier multidisciplinary research institute established in 1959 under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, located at Jodhpur. CAZRI conducts specialized scientific research on arid zone agriculture, sand dune stabilization, desert vegetation restoration, soil conservation, and sustainable resource management across arid Rajasthan regions.

53. (D) I, II, III and IV
Guggal produces oleo-gum-resin utilized in traditional medicine for anti-inflammatory treatment. Ashwagandha roots are commercially cultivated and collected for herbal formulations. Aloe Vera thrives in semi-arid climates with minimal water requirement, and Sonamukhi (Senna) is widely cultivated across western arid districts like Jodhpur and Barmer for commercial export markets worldwide.

54. (D) Sundari (Heritiera fomes)
Sundari is a characteristic mangrove tree species strictly restricted to coastal saline estuarine ecosystems, such as the Sundarbans in West Bengal. It is completely absent from Rajasthan's landlocked inland landscape. In contrast, Salar, Dhauk, and Teak are native tree species that naturally form part of Rajasthan's dry deciduous forest ecosystems.

55. (B) Jodhpur
The Arid Forest Research Institute is an autonomous institute established under the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, headquartered at Jodhpur. AFRI undertakes scientific research in forestry, eco-restoration, desertification control, and tree selection to enhance vegetation cover and sustainable land management in the arid and semi-arid regions of western Rajasthan.

56. (C) Broad leaves optimize photosynthesis with moisture, while small leaves cut water loss in arid areas.
Plant structural traits adapt directly to local moisture regimes. In southern Rajasthan, higher rainfall provides adequate moisture, allowing broad leaves to maximize light absorption and photosynthesis. Conversely, in hyper-arid western regions, limited groundwater forces plants to evolve small leaves, scales, or spines to drastically minimize surface area and transpiration water loss effectively.

57. (D) Natural resin (gum) and soft wood for making packing cases
Boswellia serrata, commonly known as Salar, yields a high-value aromatic oleo-gum-resin called Salai Guggal, used in traditional pharmaceuticals, incense, and varnish production. Furthermore, its light, soft wood is commercially harvested for manufacturing wooden packing cases, fruit crates, plywood, and paper pulp, making it

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19. (B) 1953
The Rajasthan Forest Act was officially enacted in 1953 to consolidate, standardize, and streamline various forest laws across the newly unified state of Rajasthan. This comprehensive legislation provides clear administrative frameworks for classifying state forest lands into reserved, protected, and unclassed categories while strictly regulating timber transit and penalizing illegal deforestation activities.

20. (C) To involve local communities in protecting and managing degraded forest lands
Joint Forest Management is a participatory conservation strategy designed to form partnerships between village communities and state forest departments. By involving rural inhabitants through Village Forest Protection and Management Committees, the program restores degraded forests, ensures sustainable management, and grants local residents regulated access to non-timber forest produce and a share of timber proceeds.

21. (A) Butea monosperma (Palash/Dhak)
Butea monosperma, locally known as Palash or Dhak, is widely recognized as the "Flame of the Forest." During spring, the tree sheds its leaves and produces intense masses of brilliant orange-red blossoms, making forest ridges appear ablaze from a distance. It is ecologically vital across Rajasthan's dry deciduous forest landscapes and semi-arid terrain.

22. (D) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Prosopis cineraria is locally known as Khejri, the revered state tree of Rajasthan. Tecomella undulata corresponds to Rohida, the official state flower famous for colorful blooms. Butea monosperma is referred to as Palash or Dhak due to its bright spring foliage. Acacia catechu represents Khair, widely harvested across southern forests for traditional katha extraction.

23. (B) Churu
According to the India State of Forest Report 2021, Churu district recorded the lowest forest cover in Rajasthan, measuring just 77.69 square kilometers, which represents approximately 0.56% of its geographical area. Extreme climatic conditions, sandy soil, low average rainfall, and intense summer heat severely limit natural tree cover across this northern desert district.

24. (C) They are mainly concentrated on upper ridges of the Aravalli hills in southern Rajasthan.
Salar forests are composed primarily of Boswellia serrata trees and are predominantly located on the upper slopes and rocky ridges of the Aravalli mountains in southern and central Rajasthan. These drought-hardy, light-demanding trees thrive in thin, well-drained soils, providing valuable soft wood utilized for packing cases, paper pulp, and oleo-gum-resin extraction.

25. (A) I and II only
Orans are traditional sacred groves preserved through religious taboos and dedicated to local deities, protecting native flora and fauna from tree felling. Gauchar lands serve as community pasture lands managed for livestock grazing. Neither system is utilized for commercial timber logging by the state, as both function strictly as community-based conservation and grazing resources.

26. (A) Implementation of silviculture and afforestation practices
Silviculture and planned afforestation practices involve scientific management, regeneration, and controlled planting of trees to enhance forest cover and restore degraded ecosystems. Unlike unregulated livestock grazing, agricultural encroachment, and invasive weed invasions, which destroy natural habitats, silvicultural interventions actively protect and revitalize Rajasthan's natural forest reserves and fragile desert vegetation.

27. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
Arid region trees in western Rajasthan possess deep taproots, thick protective bark, and small, thick, or waxy leaves to survive extreme summer environments. These specialized xerophytic adaptations exist specifically to minimize transpiration and reduce internal water loss during drought periods, directly contradicting the claim that they function to maximize transpiration rates.

28. (B) K.M. Munshi
Van Mahotsav, the national festival of tree planting, was initiated in 1950 by Kanaiyalal Maneklal Munshi, the Union Minister for Agriculture and Food. The campaign was created to create environmental awareness, encourage mass tree planting across India, restore forest cover, and involve communities in ecological

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shifting dunes, reduces wind velocity, and halts soil movement, effectively preventing the eastward encroachment of the Thar Desert into fertile eastern plains.

68. (B) Tropical Thorn Forest → Mixed Deciduous Forest → Tropical Dry Teak Forest
Traveling south-eastward from Jaisalmer to Banswara follows an increasing precipitation gradient. Jaisalmer in the hyper-arid west is dominated by Tropical Thorn Forest and desert scrub. Crossing the central Aravalli region reveals Mixed Deciduous Forest in moderate rainfall areas. Reaching high-rainfall southern districts like Banswara transitions into humid Tropical Dry Teak Forest zones.

69. (A) Protected Forests
Protected Forests cover the highest percentage of total recorded forest land in Rajasthan, accounting for roughly 56% (specifically around 56.43%). Under state forest legal management, while ownership rests with the government, regulated local rights for fuelwood collection and livestock grazing are permitted, unlike in strictly closed Reserved Forests statewide.

70. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
Van Mahotsav is an annual week-long national tree-planting festival celebrated across India during the first week of July to coincide with monsoonal rainfall. In Rajasthan, the forest department, educational institutions, local panchayats, and NGOs organize mass plantation drives to expand state forest cover and raise environmental conservation awareness among local citizens.

71. (B) To establish exclusive commercial timber monocultures for export markets
Social Forestry emphasizes community-centered forestry to meet local fuel, fodder, timber, and environmental needs, while relieving pressure on natural forest reserves. It focuses on farm forestry, roadside plantations, and public community woodlots. Establishing commercial timber monocultures for corporate export markets contradicts the core social and ecological objectives of social forestry initiatives.

72. (C) Khejri
Khejri (Prosopis cineraria) is widely known as the 'Kalpavriksha of the Thar Desert' because every part of the tree provides vital socio-economic and ecological benefits. Its foliage provides nutritious fodder (Loong), pods yield edible vegetables (Sangri), wood supplies fuelwood and timber, while its deep roots fix atmospheric nitrogen and enrich sandy desert soils.

73. (A) I, II and III only
According to the India State of Forest Report 2021, Rajasthan's forest cover stands at 4.87%. Udaipur holds the maximum forest cover, while Churu records the lowest. However, Protected Forests represent the largest share of recorded forest legal area at roughly 56%, whereas Unclassed Forests constitute the smallest portion at approximately 6% statewide.

74. (A) Village common lands maintained for livestock grazing
In traditional land classification systems of Rajasthan, Gauchar refers to community pasture lands set aside near villages for livestock grazing. These common resource lands are maintained collectively by rural communities to sustain domestic cattle, sheep, and goats, serving as a critical support system for agrarian and pastoral livelihoods across rural state districts.

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75. (B) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
The Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Project was executed with financial assistance from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The multi-phase project focuses on afforestation, desertification control, biodiversity conservation, soil moisture conservation, Joint Forest Management, and poverty alleviation through sustainable livelihood generation across forest-fringe communities across various districts of Rajasthan.

76. (B) Rajasthan ranks among top Indian states in Very Dense Forest (VDF) area.
Rajasthan possesses an extremely small area under Very Dense Forest (VDF), measuring only around 78 square kilometers according to the ISFR 2021 report. Consequently, Rajasthan ranks near the bottom among Indian states in VDF area. Open forest and scrub dominate the state's forest profile due to prevailing arid desert climatic conditions.

open thorn scrub, making natural teak growth unviable.

39. (B) Tendu
Tendu is an ecologically important tree in southern Rajasthan valued primarily for its leaves, which are collected commercially as wrappers for the bidi industry. In contrast, Ashwagandha, Guggal, and Sonamukhi are well-recognized medicinal plants harvested and cultivated specifically for their therapeutic pharmacological properties and traditional ayurvedic applications across regional health systems.

40. (C) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.
Escalating climate change, rising mean temperatures, and irregular rainfall patterns alter vegetation boundaries and threaten drought-vulnerable species in semi-arid zones. However, sub-tropical evergreen forests require high rainfall and elevated humid conditions found only at Mount Abu, making any expansion of evergreen forests into the hyper-arid Thar Desert ecologically and climatically impossible.

41. (B) 1730
The historic Khejarli massacre occurred in September 1730 AD at Khejarli village near Jodhpur. Led by Amrita Devi Bishnoi, 363 Bishnoi community members sacrificed their lives to protect Khejri trees from being felled by soldiers of Maharaja Abhai Singh. This historic event remains a foundational inspiration for modern environmental conservation movements across India.

42. (A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
Tendu leaves are primarily collected for wrapping bidis in the tobacco industry. Khus grass roots yield fragrant essential oils and are woven into natural cooling mats. Khair wood heartwood is processed to extract traditional katha. Mahua flowers are rich in sugars, used for edible consumption and traditional country liquor distillation by tribal groups.

43. (B) Sawai Madhopur, Bharatpur, Tonk
Khus grass (Chrysopogon zizanioides) is an aromatic perennial grass species predominantly concentrated in the moist riverine tracts and alluvial lowlands of Sawai Madhopur, Bharatpur, and Tonk districts in eastern Rajasthan. The highly fragrant roots of Khus are commercially harvested to extract essential perfumery oils and manufacture traditional summer cooling screens and mats.

44. (B) It is an invasive species suppressing native flora and lowering water tables.
Prosopis juliflora, locally known as Vilayati Babul, is an aggressive alien invasive species in Rajasthan. It spreads rapidly across arid landscapes, outcompeting and suppressing native flora like Khejri and Rohida. Its extensive root architecture drastically lowers groundwater tables, while its chemical leaf litter alters soil composition, threatening regional biodiversity and pastoral ecosystems.

45. (A) I and II only
Tendu leaves serve as essential natural wrappers in bidi manufacturing, and Katha is traditionally extracted from Khair heartwood by the indigenous Kathodi community. Rather than banning collection, the Rajasthan state government actively promotes regulated harvesting of minor non-timber forest produce by local forest dwellers to support tribal livelihoods while ensuring sustainable forest utilization.

46. (B) 1983
In October 1983, the Government of Rajasthan officially designated Khejri (Prosopis cineraria) as the State Tree and Rohida (Tecomella undulata) as the State Flower. This official declaration recognized their unmatched socio-economic utility, cultural reverence, and critical ecological role in sustaining the desert ecosystems across the state's vast arid regions.

47. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Aravalli Afforestation Project was launched to rehabilitate severely degraded forest areas across the Aravalli mountain belt. Replanting native species along the ridge restored vegetation density, halted wind erosion, checked eastward desert extension, and met local demands for fuelwood and fodder, directly fulfilling its core ecological restoration and environmental stabilization objectives.

48. (C) A National Park has state legal protection, whereas an Oran is conserved through community faith.
A National Park is a formal statutory protected area created under government environmental

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afforestation drive by the Rajasthan State Government. Its primary objective was to significantly increase green cover, check land degradation, restore degraded forest ecosystems, and encourage large-scale tree planting with active participation from public institutions, local Panchayats, and local citizens.

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88. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
The Aravalli mountain range forms a vital ecological barrier diagonally across Rajasthan, obstructing sand dune migration and checking the eastward advance of the Thar Desert. However, continuous deforestation and illegal mining have created physical gaps along the Aravalli ridge, allowing desert sands to encroach upon fertile eastern agricultural plains continuously.

89. (A) 1, 3, 2, 4
The Khejarli massacre occurred in 1730 AD when 363 Bishnois sacrificed their lives for tree protection. The Rajasthan Forest Act was enacted in 1953 to consolidate state forest regulations. Khejri was officially declared the State Tree of Rajasthan in October 1983. The Aravalli Afforestation Project was launched in April 1992.

90. (A) Five
According to the Champion and Seth classification system of Indian forest types (1968), Rajasthan's natural vegetation cover is broadly categorized into five major forest type groups. These groups include Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests, Tropical Thorn Forests, Sub-tropical Broadleaved Hill Forests, Dry Tropical Riverine Forests, and specialized Edaphic Forest groups.

commercially valuable across Aravalli hill regions statewide.

58. (B) Churu, Hanumangarh, Jodhpur, Ganganagar
According to the India State of Forest Report 2021, Churu recorded the lowest forest cover in Rajasthan at 77.69 sq km. Hanumangarh recorded the second lowest at 92.97 sq km, followed by Jodhpur at 107.08 sq km, and Ganganagar at 113.20 sq km. This sequence correctly reflects ascending order from lowest to higher forest cover.

59. (B) Madhuca longifolia
The botanical name of the Mahua tree is Madhuca longifolia. Belonging to the Sapotaceae family, Mahua is culturally and economically vital to tribal communities across southern Rajasthan districts like Banswara, Dungarpur, and Udaipur. Its sweet, fleshy flowers are used for food and brewing, while seeds yield valuable edible Mahua oil.

60. (B) Rohida
Rohida (Tecomella undulata) is a tree species, recognized as the State Flower of Rajasthan. In contrast, Sevan (Lasiurus sindicus), Dhaman (Cenchrus ciliaris), and Karad (Dichanthium annulatum) are prominent, nutrient-rich perennial grass species native to the arid and semi-arid rangelands of western Rajasthan, serving as essential livestock fodder for pastoral communities.

61. (A) Katha – Butea monosperma (Palash)
Katha is extracted from the heartwood of the Khair tree (Acacia catechu), not from Butea monosperma (Palash). Butea monosperma is primarily known for producing gum, dye, and leaves used for plates. Gum Arabic is correctly extracted from Acacia senegal, bidi wrapping from Diospyros melanoxylon, and aromatic roots from Khus grass plants.

62. (C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Sita Mata Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Pratapgarh district, famous for flying squirrels and teak forests. Sariska Tiger Reserve is situated in Alwar district. Keoladeo National Park lies in Bharatpur district, world-renowned as a wetland bird sanctuary. Desert National Park spans across Jaisalmer and Barmer districts in western Rajasthan desert.

63. (D) Overgrazing by livestock herds exceeding ecosystem carrying capacity
In the fragile arid landscape of western Rajasthan, unmanaged livestock overgrazing poses the most immediate anthropogenic threat to natural grasslands and desert vegetation. Excessive grazing by cattle, sheep, and goats exceeds pasture carrying capacity, stripping protective vegetation cover, compacting loose topsoil, preventing natural sapling regeneration, and accelerating wind-driven desertification processes.

64. (C) To re-establish the structural and functional integrity of the native ecosystem
Ecological restoration on degraded lands aims to rehabilitate damaged ecosystems by re-establishing native species composition, structural vegetation complexity, soil fertility, and functional ecological processes. Rather than introducing invasive flora or clearing natural wild lands, restoration restores ecological balance, enhances biodiversity, improves groundwater recharge, and increases ecosystem resilience against ongoing environmental degradation.

65. (A) I and II only
Joint Forest Management aims to restore degraded forest areas by involving local communities through grassroots institutional bodies called Village Forest Protection and Management Committees. To provide economic incentives for protection, the program actively permits local dwellers to gather non-timber forest produce and dry fallen fuelwood, rather than imposing a strict complete prohibition.

66. (D) Dussehra (Vijayadashami)
In Rajasthan, the Khejri tree (Prosopis cineraria) is traditionally worshipped during the festival of Dussehra (Vijayadashami). This practice, known as Shami Pooja, roots deeply in epic traditions where weapons were symbolically kept on the Shami tree. The ritual honors Khejri for its vital role in sustaining life and ecology across desert regions.

67. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Sand dune stabilization is essential in western Rajasthan to control soil erosion and desertification. Planting deep-rooted native vegetation, such as Sevan grass, Phog, and Khejri, binds loose sand particles, anchors

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protection during the monsoonal onset every July.

29. (A) Prosopis cineraria
The scientific name of the Khejri tree is Prosopis cineraria. Belonging to the Fabaceae family, Khejri is officially designated as the State Tree of Rajasthan. It plays an indispensable role in desert ecology by enriching soil nitrogen, providing evergreen fodder, stabilizing sand dunes, and supporting human livelihoods across arid western Rajasthan regions.

30. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
Uncontrolled overgrazing in western Rajasthan's fragile dry tracts destroys vegetative ground cover, leading to soil compaction, reduced water infiltration, and severe wind erosion. Conversely, implementing regulated rotational grazing allows pasture grasses to regenerate naturally, preventing land degradation, restoring topsoil structure, and ensuring a sustainable long-term supply of nutritious livestock fodder resources.

31. (D) Highly nutritious grasses found in arid and semi-arid Rajasthan regions
Livan, Dhaman, Karad, and Anjan are indigenous, highly drought-tolerant perennial grass species found across the arid and semi-arid rangelands of Rajasthan. These nutrient-rich pasture grasses play vital ecological roles in stabilizing moving sand dunes, preventing soil erosion, and supporting pastoral livestock livelihoods across desert regions during prolonged dry spells.

32. (C) Diospyros melanoxylon – Rohida
Diospyros melanoxylon is the botanical name for the Tendu tree, whose leaves are harvested for bidi manufacturing. In contrast, Rohida is the local common name for Tecomella undulata, the State Flower of Rajasthan. Boswellia serrata corresponds to Salar, Anogeissus pendula to Dhauk, and Acacia catechu to Khair wood species.

33. (D) I, II, III and IV
Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests dominate Rajasthan's forest landscape, located mainly in southern and south-eastern Aravalli regions receiving 50 cm to 100 cm annual rainfall. Dominant tree species include Teak, Dhauk, Salar, and Palash. Furthermore, these forests represent the largest proportion of reserved forest areas dedicated to long-term resource conservation statewide.

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34. (D) To reduce the rate of water loss through transpiration
Sunken stomata are microscopic pores located inside deep cuticular pits or depressions on the leaves of xerophytic desert plants. This structural adaptation traps a localized layer of moist air above the pore, creating a micro-environment that significantly decreases the water vapor gradient between the leaf interior and dry external air, reducing transpiration.

35. (A) Mixed Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest
Along the Aravalli mountain ranges at intermediate altitudes ranging between 700 meters and 1000 meters, Mixed Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests form the dominant vegetation type. These forests feature a blend of tree species such as Dhauk, Salar, Khair, and Bamboo, benefiting from moderate rainfall, cooler temperatures, and well-drained fertile hill soils.

36. (C) 37%
Under the official legal administrative classification of forests in Rajasthan, Reserved Forests account for approximately 37% of the total recorded forest area. These forest lands are placed under complete government ownership and legal protection, strictly prohibiting all unauthorized human entry, commercial timber logging, and local livestock grazing activities statewide.

37. (A) They act as micro-reserves preserving biodiversity and aiding groundwater recharge.
Orans are traditional sacred groves managed by rural communities across Rajasthan through long-standing religious customs. By strictly prohibiting tree cutting and hunting, Orans serve as vital micro-reserves that preserve indigenous biodiversity, protect wildlife habitats, prevent desert soil erosion, and facilitate sub-surface groundwater recharge in arid desert regions.

38. (D) Bikaner
Tropical Dry Teak forests require high rainfall exceeding 75 cm annually and are strictly restricted to southern Rajasthan districts like Banswara, Dungarpur, Pratapgarh, and Chittorgarh. Bikaner, situated in the hyper-arid north-western desert belt, receives under 30 cm annual rainfall and naturally supports

77. (A) Palash / Dhak
Butea monosperma is commonly known by its local names Palash or Dhak in Rajasthan. It is celebrated as the "Flame of the Forest" due to its brilliant orange-red flowers that bloom profusely in early spring. The tree provides non-timber produce including gum, resin, and leaves used for traditional eco-friendly dining plates.

78. (C) Jaisalmer
Udaipur, Banswara, and Dungarpur belong to the southern forest division of Rajasthan, characterized by high monsoonal rainfall, hilly terrain, and dry deciduous teak forests. Jaisalmer, situated in extreme western Rajasthan, falls in the hyper-arid desert division dominated by sand dunes, extreme low rainfall, and open xerophytic thorn scrub flora.

79. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
Guggal (Commiphora wightii) is a critically endangered medicinal shrub native to the arid and semi-arid tracts of Rajasthan. It yields a highly valued oleo-gum-resin used in ayurvedic medicine. Destructive and unscientific tapping practices, including deep bark incisions, have caused widespread tree mortality, leading to a drastic decline in its wild natural populations.

80. (C) Sevan
Sevan grass (Lasiurus sindicus) is a highly nutritious perennial grass species abundant in the Lathi Series region of Jaisalmer district. Known as the 'king of desert grasses,' Sevan possesses deep root systems that survive severe drought, bind loose desert sand, recharge topsoil nutrients, and yield high-protein fodder essential for desert livestock survival.

81. (B) Katha
The dark heartwood of Khair (Acacia catechu) contains high concentrations of catechin and tannic acid, which are extracted by boiling wood chips in water. Historically, the indigenous Kathodi tribe of southern Rajasthan specializes in extracting Katha (catechu) from Khair trees, producing a valuable byproduct used in pan manufacturing, dyeing, and traditional medicine.

82. (D) Unrecorded legal forests where grazing and tree felling are permitted unless prohibited
Unclassed Forests represent a legal forest category comprising unrecorded land tracks that have not been designated as Reserved or Protected Forests. Accounting for about 6% of Rajasthan's total forest area, public activities such as livestock grazing and tree cutting are generally allowed in these lands, unless specific localized administrative prohibitions are issued by authorities.

83. (A) Project Tiger Launch in Rajasthan – 2010
Project Tiger was originally launched in Rajasthan in 1973 at Ranthambore Tiger Reserve, making the 2010 date incorrect. Van Mahotsav was introduced in 1950 by K.M. Munshi. The Aravalli Afforestation Project received financial assistance from Japan's OECF (now JICA), and Khejri was officially declared the State Tree of Rajasthan in October 1983.

84. (C) Loss of grass cover causing severe soil erosion and desertification
Uncontrolled overgrazing by excessive livestock herds strips protective ground grass cover and young saplings across western Rajasthan's arid ecosystem. Removing vegetative cover exposes delicate topsoils directly to severe wind force, leading to intense soil erosion, loss of soil organic moisture, land degradation, and accelerated desertification across fragile arid desert tracts.

85. (A) Alwar
Although Very Dense Forest (VDF) constitutes a tiny fraction of Rajasthan's total forest area (around 78 sq km), Alwar district holds the largest share of VDF in the state, measuring approximately 59.39 sq km according to the ISFR 2021. This dense forest canopy is primarily concentrated within the Sariska Tiger Reserve territory.

86. (D) Vilayati Babul (Prosopis juliflora)
Orans are traditional sacred groves preserved through community religious faith, fostering native biodiversity. Indigenous trees such as Khejri, Peepal, and Banyan naturally thrive within Orans. In contrast, Vilayati Babul (Prosopis juliflora) is an aggressive exotic invasive species that invades degraded lands but is traditionally excluded and eradicated from sacred grove community lands.

87. (B) To boost state forest cover via massive public afforestation drives
The 'Green Rajasthan' (Harit Rajasthan) campaign was launched as a massive statewide

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Alwar ranks second among these districts with nearly 1,780 square kilometers. Pratapgarh follows in third position with about 1,033 square kilometers, while Baran occupies the fourth position among the group with approximately 1,010 square kilometers.

10. (A) Teak (Sagwan)
Teak is a major commercial hardwood tree species prized primarily for its dense, highly durable, and termite-resistant structural timber used extensively in construction and high-grade furniture. Unlike species such as Tendu, Khair, and Mahua, which are harvested mainly for non-timber forest produce like leaves, resin, and flowers, Teak is valued for wood timber.

11. (C) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.
Dry deciduous trees undergo seasonal leaf shedding during the hot, dry summer months to significantly reduce transpiration losses and conserve internal moisture. However, tropical thorn forests of western Rajasthan do not remain green year-round; they consist of extreme xerophytic shrubs and stunted trees that shed foliage or reduce leaves during dry spells due to low groundwater tables.

12. (B) Tecomella undulata
Rohida is officially designated as the State Flower of Rajasthan, known for its vibrant yellow, orange, and reddish tubular blossoms. Its botanical name is Tecomella undulata. This drought-resistant timber tree species belongs to the Bignoniaceae family and thrives naturally across the arid and semi-arid desert landscapes of western and central Rajasthan districts.

13. (A) I, II and III only
Both Khejri and Rohida were officially declared the State Tree and State Flower of Rajasthan, respectively, in October 1983 due to their immense ecological and cultural significance in arid regions. While both species thrive naturally in desert ecosystems, the correct scientific name for Khejri is Prosopis cineraria, whereas Prosopis juliflora refers to the invasive Vilayati Babul.

14. (C) Scarcity of rainfall and high rate of evaporation
Broad-leaved dry deciduous trees require moderate moisture levels and moderate atmospheric humidity to sustain their expansive foliage during growth periods. In arid western districts like Jaisalmer and Bikaner, low annual precipitation under 20 cm combined with extreme solar radiation and intense evaporation severely limits soil moisture availability, making conditions unviable for broad-leaved deciduous forests.

15. (D) Mount Abu region
Sub-tropical evergreen forests represent the rarest forest category in Rajasthan, occupying less than 0.5% of total forest cover. They are strictly restricted to the high-elevation zones of Mount Abu in the Sirohi district, where elevated altitude, cooler temperatures, and high localized annual precipitation above 150 cm create ideal micro-climatic conditions for evergreen flora.

16. (C) Bamboo is classified as a major timber tree and its extraction is prohibited under all circumstances.
Botanically, bamboo is classified as a giant grass species rather than a tree timber. Under Indian forest laws and regulatory frameworks, regulated harvesting and extraction of bamboo from non-forest areas and managed forests are legally permitted to support local tribal livelihoods, cottage industries, paper manufacturing, handicraft production, and rural structural needs across southern districts.

17. (B) Jambhoji
Guru Jambheshwar, revered as Sant Jambhoji, founded the Bishnoi community in the late fifteenth century in western Rajasthan. He formulated 29 sacred principles, emphasizing environmental conservation, strict protection of green trees, compassion for wild animals, and righteous living. His teachings laid the foundation for the historically renowned eco-conscious ethos of the Bishnoi movement.

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18. (B) Protected Forest, Reserved Forest, Unclassed Forest
In Rajasthan's legal forest area breakdown, Protected Forests constitute the largest share at approximately 56%, where regulated local activities are permitted. Reserved Forests rank second, making up around 37% of recorded forest area with complete protection. Unclassed Forests constitute the smallest portion at roughly 6%, consisting of unrecorded lands with minimal administrative restrictions.

CHAPTER 15
Wildlife Sanctuaries of Rajasthan

1. Which of the following bio-geographic zones covers the largest area in Rajasthan, heavily influencing the flora and fauna found in the state's western wildlife sanctuaries?
(A) The Semi-Arid Zone
(B) The Indian Desert Zone
(C) The Aravalli Hills Zone
(D) The Gangetic Plain Zone

2. The dominant tree species found in the dry deciduous forests of Ranthambore National Park, which sheds its leaves in summer and constitutes the primary vegetation cover, is:
(A) Dhok (Anogeissus pendula)
(B) Teak (Tectona grandis)
(C) Sal (Shorea robusta)
(D) Khejri (Prosopis cineraria)

3. Consider the following statements regarding the conservation history of Ranthambore:
I. It was originally established as the Sawai Madhopur Game Sanctuary in 1955.
II. It was included in the first phase of India's Project Tiger in 1973.
III. It was upgraded to the status of a National Park in the year 1980.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

4. Sariska Tiger Reserve is strategically located in the Aravalli hills. Which district of Rajasthan hosts the primary core area of this reserve?
(A) Sawai Madhopur
(B) Bharatpur
(C) Karauli
(D) Alwar

5. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The National Tiger Conservation Authority initiated a tiger relocation programme in Sariska in 2008.
Reason (R): Sariska's entire native wild tiger population was wiped out by 2005 primarily due to intensive poaching and habitat pressure.
In the context of the above two statements, select the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

6. Keoladeo National Park was primarily created as a hunting preserve for the Maharajas of Bharatpur. The artificial wetlands of this park receive their water supply primarily from which of the following dams?
(A) Bisalpur Dam
(B) Ajan Dam
(C) Jawai Dam
(D) Rana Pratap Sagar Dam

7. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: Wildlife Sanctuary
P. Bandh Baretha
Q. Phulwari Ki Nal
R. Shergarh
S. Todgarh Raoli
List II: Location/District
1. Udaipur
2. Baran
3. Bharatpur
4. Ajmer, Pali, Rajsamand
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4

8. The Desert National Park in Jaisalmer is famous not only for its wildlife but also for its geological significance. Which of the following is preserved within this park's boundaries?
(A) The Akal Wood Fossil Park with ancient petrified wood
(B) Prehistoric rock shelter paintings from the

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61. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: Fauna/Flora
P. Flying Squirrel
Q. Great Indian Bustard
R. Tiger
S. Blackbuck
List II: Sanctuary
1. Desert National Park
2. Ranthambore National Park
3. Sitamata Sanctuary
4. Tal Chhapar Sanctuary
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

62. Which of the following state symbols of Rajasthan is officially recognized as the 'State Flower' and holds significant ecological value in its arid and semi-arid wildlife habitats?
(A) Palash (Butea monosperma)
(B) Lotus (Nelumbo nucifera)
(C) Khejri (Prosopis cineraria)
(D) Rohida (Tecomella undulata)

63. All of the following are distinct features of the Desert National Park, EXCEPT:
(A) It records the highest annual rainfall in Rajasthan.
(B) It geographically spans across the arid regions of Jaisalmer and Barmer districts.
(C) Vast shifting sand dunes form a highly significant portion of its total landscape area.
(D) It serves as an essential natural habitat for the endemic Indian Spiny-tailed Lizard species.

64. Consider the following Tiger Reserves of Rajasthan and select their correct sequence when arranged in descending order of their total notified area (Core + Buffer):
1. Ranthambore Tiger Reserve
2. Sariska Tiger Reserve
3. Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve
(A) 1, 2, 3
(B) 2, 1, 3
(C) 1, 3, 2
(D) 3, 2, 1

65. The wildlife management strategy in Rajasthan utilizes "Camera Traps" extensively. What is the primary purpose of this technology in sanctuaries like Ranthambore and Sariska?
(A) To continuously track and monitor the exact real-time satellite GPS location of all registered tourist safari vehicles.
(B) To identify individual tigers using unique stripe patterns.
(C) To automatically measure atmospheric humidity, rainfall levels, and temperature fluctuations across the dense forest canopy.
(D) To remotely scan and detect the depth of underground aquifer water reserves throughout the sanctuary during droughts.

66. Which of the following statements is the odd one out regarding the ecological characteristics of Rajasthan's sanctuaries?
(A) Keoladeo National Park is an entirely natural, rain-fed wetland ecosystem.
(B) Sitamata Sanctuary contains the northernmost limit of teak forests in India.
(C) Tal Chhapar Sanctuary lies on a flat saline depression.
(D) Mount Abu Sanctuary is the only place in Rajasthan where the wild agricultural weed Dicliptera abuensis is endemic.

67. The term "Endemism" is frequently used in biodiversity conservation. In the context of Rajasthan's wildlife, what does an 'endemic species' mean?
(A) A long-distance migratory bird species that travels to western Rajasthan exclusively during the winter climate season.
(B) Any wild species that has been successfully bred within government-managed captive breeding facilities and zoos.
(C) A species naturally restricted to a specific geographical area.
(D) A formerly native species that has recently become completely extinct within the administrative borders of the state.

68. Consider the following statements regarding the Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve:
I. It is spread across Kota, Bundi, Chittorgarh, and Jhalawar districts.
II. It includes the Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary.
III. It serves as an important habitat for the Indian Wolf.
IV. It was designated a tiger reserve primarily to establish a third distinct tiger population in the state.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

18. Among the following wildlife sanctuaries in Rajasthan, which one is geographically the largest in terms of core area?
(A) Desert National Park
(B) Keoladeo National Park
(C) Sajjangarh Wildlife Sanctuary
(D) Tal Chhapar Sanctuary

19. Community participation in wildlife conservation is historically deep-rooted in Rajasthan. The famous Khejarli massacre of 1730, where 363 people sacrificed their lives to protect trees, is associated with which community?
(A) Bhil
(B) Meena
(C) Bishnoi
(D) Garasiya

20. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: Migratory Bird
P. Demoiselle Crane (Kurja)
Q. Siberian Crane
R. Bar-headed Goose
S. Greater Flamingo
List II: Key Wintering Location in Rajasthan
1. Keoladeo National Park
2. Khichan Village (Jodhpur)
3. Sambhar Lake
4. Jawai Dam (Pali)
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3

21. Consider Statement I and Statement II regarding legal protections applied to wildlife in Rajasthan:
Statement I: The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 is enforced by the Rajasthan Forest Department to penalize poaching of native species.
Statement II: The Blackbuck is listed under Schedule V of the Act, which permits its selective culling by local farmers in Rajasthan.
Which of the following options is most appropriate?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

22. All of the following are eco-tourism biological parks developed in Rajasthan to reduce pressure on core wildlife sanctuaries, EXCEPT:
(A) Nahargarh Biological Park located in Jaipur
(B) Kaila Devi Biological Park
(C) Machia Biological Park near Jodhpur city
(D) Abheda Biological Park in Kota region

23. Under the administrative structure of the Rajasthan Forest Department, who among the following holds the apex position responsible for the management and direction of wildlife preservation across the state?
(A) Chief Conservator of Forests (CCF)
(B) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force)
(C) Field Director, Project Tiger
(D) Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW)

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24. Consider the following environmental laws and project launches that apply to Rajasthan's sanctuaries and select their correct chronological order (earliest to latest):
1. Launch of Project Tiger
2. Enactment of the Wildlife (Protection) Act
3. Environment (Protection) Act
4. Notification of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)
(A) 2, 1, 3, 4
(B) 1, 2, 4, 3
(C) 2, 3, 1, 4
(D) 1, 3, 2, 4

25. Which of the following is considered one of the most successful localized community conservation models in Rajasthan for preserving the Demoiselle Crane?
(A) The traditional Oran sacred grove preservation in Jaisalmer district
(B) The Bishnoi community protection practices in Guda Bishnoiyan
(C) The Khichan village bird feeding initiative
(D) The eco-development committees around Ranthambore reserve

26. Which of the following pairings of a Rajasthan state symbol with its scientific name is the odd one out?
(A) State Bird - Pavo cristatus
(B) State Tree - Prosopis cineraria
(C) State Flower - Tecomella undulata

Aravalli era
(C) Ancient copper smelting sites belonging to Ganeshwar culture
(D) The oldest recorded impact crater formed by a meteorite in India

9. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve:
(A) It was formed by combining the Darrah, Jawahar Sagar, and National Chambal sanctuaries.
(B) It was declared Rajasthan's third Tiger Reserve in 2013.
(C) The reserve is situated exclusively in the Udaipur district.
(D) It is famous for the Gagroni Parrot (Alexandrine parakeet).

10. Consider the following Tiger Reserves of Rajasthan and arrange them in the chronological order of their official notification under Project Tiger (earliest to latest):
I. Mukundra Hills
II. Sariska
III. Ramgarh Vishdhari
IV. Ranthambore
Select the correct sequence from the options below:
(A) IV, II, I, III
(B) II, IV, I, III
(C) IV, II, III, I
(D) II, I, IV, III

11. Tal Chhapar Sanctuary in Churu district is widely recognized for the conservation of which specific animal species?
(A) Indian Leopard
(B) Sloth Bear
(C) Indian Wolf
(D) Blackbuck

12. Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary is ecologically unique because it represents the confluence of the Aravalli, Vindhyan, and Malwa plateau ecosystems. It is most famous for hosting the highest concentration of which species in Rajasthan?
(A) Great Indian Bustard
(B) Flying Squirrel
(C) Indian Pangolin
(D) Caracal

13. Consider the following statements regarding the State Animals of Rajasthan:
I. The Chinkara (Indian Gazelle) was declared the State Animal in 1981.
II. The Camel was designated as the State Animal in the livestock category in 2014.
III. The Chinkara is scientifically known as Gazella bennettii.
IV. Both animals are listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

14. What is the scientific name of the Great Indian Bustard, the State Bird of Rajasthan?
(A) Pavo cristatus
(B) Chlamydotis macqueenii
(C) Grus leucogeranus
(D) Ardeotis nigriceps

15. The Rajasthan government initiated 'Project Great Indian Bustard' to arrest the decline of its state bird. In which year was this state-level conservation project officially launched?
(A) 2001
(B) 2013
(C) 2018
(D) 2021

16. Which of the following wildlife reserves was officially notified as the fourth Tiger Reserve of Rajasthan in May 2022?
(A) Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary reserve forest area
(B) Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve
(C) Dholpur-Karauli Tiger Reserve ecosystem
(D) Jamwa Ramgarh Sanctuary protection area

17. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Human-wildlife conflict is particularly high around the peripheries of Ranthambore and Sariska reserves.
Reason (R): These reserves suffer from habitat fragmentation and an expanding agrarian footprint that restricts natural wildlife corridors.
In the context of the above two statements, select the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

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4. Dicliptera abuensis (endemic plant)
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3

36. Which specific type of grass, known for its high nutritional value and sweet root base, is predominantly found in Tal Chhapar Sanctuary and forms the primary diet of its blackbuck population?
(A) Dhaman (Cenchrus ciliaris)
(B) Sewan (Lasiurus scindicus)
(C) Karad (Dichanthium annulatum)
(D) Mothiya (Cyperus rotundus)

37. Consider the following wildlife sanctuaries of Rajasthan and select their correct geographical sequence from North to South:
I. Tal Chhapar Sanctuary
II. Sitamata Sanctuary
III. Sariska Tiger Reserve
IV. Kumbhalgarh Sanctuary
Select the correct order from the options below:
(A) I, III, IV, II
(B) III, I, IV, II
(C) I, IV, III, II
(D) III, IV, I, II

38. Which of the following minor wildlife sanctuaries in Rajasthan spans across the borders of three districts: Ajmer, Pali, and Rajsamand?
(A) Bassi Wildlife Sanctuary
(B) Todgarh Raoli Sanctuary
(C) Jamwa Ramgarh Sanctuary
(D) Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary

39. The Camel was declared the State Animal of Rajasthan (Livestock Category) primarily to address which of the following applied conservation challenges?
(A) To introduce domesticated camels into core sanctuary areas as additional livestock prey for wild leopards and tigers.
(B) To enable the state Forest Department to classify camels under Schedule I of the national Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
(C) To actively promote state eco-tourism by organizing regulated wild camel safari expeditions inside the Desert National Park.
(D) To curb camel population decline and ban slaughter and illegal export.

40. Consider the following statements regarding the Great Indian Bustard (GIB) conservation efforts in Rajasthan:
I. The GIB is locally known as 'Godawan' in Rajasthan.
II. It is primarily a grassland bird that avoids dense forests.
III. The 'My Hatchling' initiative involved collecting GIB eggs from the wild for artificial incubation.
IV. The GIB population in Rajasthan currently exceeds 1,000 individuals.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I and II only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

41. The newly notified Dholpur-Karauli Tiger Reserve expands the tiger conservation landscape in Rajasthan. It primarily connects with which adjoining major tiger reserve in the region to form a contiguous corridor?
(A) Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve
(B) Sariska Tiger Reserve
(C) Ranthambore Tiger Reserve
(D) Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve

42. In order to mitigate human-wildlife conflict and protect sanctuary borders, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change designates buffer areas around national parks. What is the technical term for these zones in the Indian context?
(A) Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ)
(B) Restricted Forest Zones (RFZ)
(C) Biosphere Reserves (BR)
(D) Conservation Reserves (CR)

43. Consider Statement I and Statement II regarding community conservation in Rajasthan:
Statement I: Orans are sacred groves traditionally preserved by local communities in Rajasthan, often dedicated to a local deity.
Statement II: Chopping trees or killing animals within an Oran is culturally strictly prohibited, which acts as a decentralized conservation tool.
Which of the following options is most appropriate?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is

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the context of Rajasthan's Forest Department is correct?
(A) It is a specialized conservation fund collected exclusively from luxury tax surcharges on foreign tourists visiting state tiger reserves.
(B) It is a direct financial cash subsidy program distributed to local agricultural farmers affected by severe human-wildlife conflict incidents.
(C) It funds afforestation to offset forest land diverted for non-forest use.
(D) It is an international United Nations grant dedicated solely to emergency habitat conservation for the Great Indian Bustard species.

78. A graduate student is analyzing the success stories of wildlife conservation in Rajasthan. Which of the following events represents a major triumph for the Sariska Tiger Reserve post-2008?
(A) The natural migration of a tiger from Madhya Pradesh.
(B) The discovery of a previously unknown sub-species of tiger.
(C) The complete elimination of all human settlements from the entire Alwar district.
(D) The successful breeding and birth of wild tiger cubs from relocated tigers.

79. Which wildlife sanctuary in Rajasthan is uniquely characterized by the presence of a deep gorge on the river Chambal and is heavily infested by crocodiles and alligators?
(A) National Chambal Sanctuary
(B) Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary
(C) Darrah Sanctuary
(D) Shergarh Sanctuary

80. The State Board for Wildlife (SBWL) in Rajasthan is the highest advisory body on matters of wildlife conservation at the state level. Who serves as the statutory Chairperson of this Board?
(A) The Minister of Environment and Forests, Rajasthan
(B) The Chief Minister of Rajasthan
(C) The Chief Wildlife Warden of Rajasthan
(D) The Governor of Rajasthan

81. Consider the following statements regarding the Jawai Bandh area in Pali district:
I. It is officially designated as a Leopard Conservation Reserve.
II. It is renowned for the peaceful co-existence between wild leopards and the local Rabari pastoralist community.
III. It constitutes the core zone of the Kumbhalgarh National Park.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

82. What is the primary ecological rationale behind establishing "Biological Parks" outside major urban centres in Rajasthan (such as Sajjangarh Biological Park near Udaipur)?
(A) To support rescue, ex-situ conservation, and public education.
(B) To establish designated closed hunting and sport reserves reserved exclusively for visiting state dignitaries and foreign guests.
(C) To commercially cultivate endangered flora and medicinal herbs for large-scale supply to state Ayurvedic pharmaceutical industries.
(D) To serve as large-scale open wilderness release habitats for problem wild tigers relocated from human-wildlife conflict zones.

83. The Aravalli hill ranges form a major ecological spine through Rajasthan. Which of the following wildlife sanctuaries is NOT located within or along the Aravalli range?
(A) Kumbhalgarh Sanctuary
(B) Todgarh Raoli Sanctuary
(C) Desert National Park
(D) Mount Abu Sanctuary

84. Consider Statement I and Statement II regarding the legal framework of Tiger Reserves:
Statement I: The declaration of a Tiger Reserve under the Wildlife Protection Act requires the demarcation of a 'Core' or 'Critical Tiger Habitat' and a peripheral 'Buffer' area.
Statement II: In Rajasthan, tourism and agricultural activities are completely banned in both the Core and the Buffer areas of all Tiger Reserves.
Which of the following options is most appropriate?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is

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54. Consider the following statements regarding Keoladeo National Park:
I. It is named after a local Shiva temple situated within its boundaries.
II. Famous ornithologist Dr. Salim Ali played a key role in its conservation.
III. It naturally formed as a wetland millions of years ago without human intervention.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

55. In wildlife terminology, what is a "Conservation Reserve" as legally defined and frequently established in Rajasthan (such as Bisalpur or Jawai Bandh)?
(A) An extensive forest area exclusively owned by private individuals or trusts for commercial captive breeding operations.
(B) A public zoological park recognized and monitored by the Central Zoo Authority for ex-situ animal displays.
(C) A traditional community-owned sacred grove (Oran) completely managed by villagers free from state forestry regulation.
(D) A protected state area acting as a buffer or migration corridor.

56. The 'Project Leopard' in Rajasthan, aimed at conserving leopards and mitigating human-leopard conflict, was notably launched in which of the following urban-adjacent forest areas?
(A) Jhalana and Amagarh
(B) Machia Safari Park located near Jodhpur city
(C) Sajjangarh Wildlife Sanctuary in Udaipur district
(D) Abheda Biological Park in Kota forest region

57. Which sanctuary in Rajasthan is uniquely situated at the highest altitude, providing a habitat for sub-tropical evergreen species like the wild rose and observing high endemism?
(A) Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary
(B) Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary
(C) Mount Abu Sanctuary
(D) Phulwari ki Nal Wildlife Sanctuary

58. Consider Statement I and Statement II regarding poaching and legal frameworks in Rajasthan:
Statement I: The Bishnoi community's socio-religious principles, established by Guru Jambheshwar, mandate the protection of all wildlife, deeply influencing anti-poaching vigilance in western Rajasthan.
Statement II: High-profile legal cases in Rajasthan regarding the poaching of Blackbucks and Chinkaras have primarily been prosecuted under the Indian Penal Code rather than the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
Which of the following options is most appropriate?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

59. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Ramgarh Vishdhari was designated as a Tiger Reserve despite having very few resident tigers at the time of notification.
Reason (R): It serves as a crucial natural corridor connecting the tiger populations of Ranthambore and Mukundra Hills.
In the context of the above two statements, select the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

60. Which of the following is the most significant anthropogenic threat currently facing the tiger population inside the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve?
(A) Extensive commercial deforestation for large-scale timber extraction managed directly by state government departments.
(B) Heavy pressure from livestock grazing and illegal fuel-wood collection.
(C) Unauthorized large-scale illegal copper and marble mining operations conducted within the core park boundary.
(D) Commercial deep-water net fishing operations authorized inside the protected Padam Talao wetland ecosystem.

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incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

44. Among the following locations, which is the odd one out in terms of NOT being officially designated as a Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan?
(A) Ranthambore
(B) Kumbhalgarh
(C) Mukundra Hills
(D) Ramgarh Vishdhari

45. In the context of wildlife management in Rajasthan, what does the term 'pugmark technique' refer to?
(A) A management method of constructing artificial waterholes and pugmark tracks for wild animals during summer months.
(B) The specialized veterinary process of tranquilizing and radio-collaring a relocated tiger before release into the wild.
(C) A traditional wildlife census method using footprint tracks.
(D) A formal legal procedure required to register a organized wildlife poaching crime under the WPA, 1972 legislation.

46. Keoladeo National Park is globally famous for being the historic wintering ground of which critically endangered migratory bird, which has not been sighted in the park since 2002?
(A) Greater Flamingo
(B) Demoiselle Crane
(C) Amur Falcon
(D) Siberian Crane

47. All of the following species are classified under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (granting them absolute protection), EXCEPT the:
(A) Nilgai (Blue Bull)
(B) Great Indian Bustard
(C) Indian Leopard
(D) Blackbuck

48. Identify the incorrect pair regarding the conservation status or feature of the given sanctuary:
(A) Tal Chhapar — Flat saline depression and grassland
(B) Desert National Park — Wet evergreen forest
(C) Sitamata — Mixed deciduous forest with teak
(D) National Chambal Sanctuary — Riverine ecosystem

49. To boost wildlife conservation awareness and localized eco-tourism, the Rajasthan Government announced the establishment of 'Luv Kush Vatikas' in 2022-23. What is the primary administrative scale of this initiative?
(A) One in each Gram Panchayat
(B) One in each District
(C) One in each Division
(D) One strictly adjacent to each Tiger Reserve

50. The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) provides statutory oversight to Project Tiger. Under which act was the NTCA constituted?
(A) Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
(B) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
(C) Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
(D) Biological Diversity Act, 2002

51. The world's most photographed tiger, famously known as 'Machli' (T-16), played a major role in popularizing eco-tourism in Rajasthan. She was the matriarch of which National Park?
(A) Sariska Tiger Reserve
(B) Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve
(C) Ranthambore National Park
(D) Keoladeo National Park

52. Identify the incorrect statement regarding the biodiversity of Rajasthan:
(A) Rajasthan contains both arid and semi-arid bio-geographic zones.
(B) The Aravalli range acts as an ecological barrier, creating distinct habitats on its eastern and western sides.
(C) The state is home to highly specialized drought-resistant flora like Khejri and Rohida.
(D) The state possesses the highest percentage of dense tropical rainforest cover in India.

53. The 'Montreux Record' is a register of wetland sites where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur. Which sanctuary in Rajasthan is currently listed on the Montreux Record?
(A) Sambhar Lake
(B) Jawai Dam Conservation Reserve
(C) Keoladeo National Park
(D) Tal Chhapar Sanctuary

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(A) I, II, and III only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I, II, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

69. A wildlife researcher wishes to study the habitat of the critically endangered Gharial (fish-eating crocodile) in Rajasthan. Which of the following sanctuaries is the most appropriate location for this applied research?
(A) Jaisamand Wildlife Sanctuary
(B) Bassi Wildlife Sanctuary
(C) National Chambal Sanctuary
(D) Jamwa Ramgarh Sanctuary

70. Identify the correct statement concerning the problem of 'crop depredation' around wildlife sanctuaries in Rajasthan:
(A) Direct crop depredation by apex predators like wild tigers and leopards represents the most frequent cause of agricultural loss near reserves.
(B) State policy compensates farmers for crop damage by wild herbivores.
(C) The Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 contains strict legal provisions that prohibit any form of physical fencing around private farmland bordering sanctuaries.
(D) Crop depredation by wildlife is completely non-existent around the Desert National Park because traditional agricultural activities are absent from the region.

71. The historic hunting lodge built by Maharaja Sawai Madho Singh I, which is now a prominent landmark inside Ranthambore, is known as:
(A) Kankanwadi Fort
(B) Abheda Mahal
(C) Siliserh Palace
(D) Jogi Mahal

72. Which prominent wildlife protection force was established by the Rajasthan Forest Department specifically to curb organized wildlife crime and poaching activities in the state?
(A) Anti-Poaching Task Force
(B) Armed Constabulary Wildlife Protection Wing
(C) State Forest Disaster Response Battalion
(D) Border Security Force Special Wildlife Division

73. Which of the following is the most effective and widely promoted method to reduce the dependence of local communities on the forest resources of Rajasthan's sanctuaries?
(A) Permanently relocating all peripheral human settlements and agricultural villages at least 100 kilometers away from protected forest boundaries.
(B) Enforcing a complete and total legal prohibition on the entry of all domestic and foreign tourists into designated core tiger habitats.
(C) Forming Eco-Development Committees to support local livelihoods.
(D) Systematically converting all administrative buffer zones around sanctuaries into intensive commercial agricultural farmlands.

74. The Machia Biological Park, established for the conservation of flora and fauna and to boost eco-tourism, is located in which district of Rajasthan?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Jaipur
(C) Udaipur
(D) Bikaner

75. Identify the correct pair regarding the establishment or notification year of the given environmental milestone in Rajasthan:
(A) Ranthambore declared a National Park — 1973
(B) Keoladeo declared a World Heritage Site — 1995
(C) Project Great Indian Bustard launched — 2005
(D) Mukundra Hills declared a Tiger Reserve — 2013

76. All of the following are recognized reasons for the declining population of the Great Indian Bustard in the Desert National Park, EXCEPT:
(A) Rapid encroachment and expansion of intensive agricultural farming activities into traditional grassland ecosystems.
(B) Tribal poaching for international pet trade.
(C) Fatal collisions with high-tension overhead electricity transmission power lines traversing key bird flight corridors.
(D) Widespread predation of unattended ground nests and eggs by opportunistic feral dogs, jackals, and desert foxes.

77. Which of the following statements about 'CAMPA' (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority) funds in

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(D) State Animal (Wild) - Gazella bennettii

27. Identify the correct statement about the river systems associated with Rajasthan's wildlife sanctuaries:
(A) The Banas river forms the southern boundary of the Desert National Park.
(B) The Luni river is the primary water source for Keoladeo National Park.
(C) The Mahi river strictly passes through the Ranthambore National Park.
(D) The Chambal river flows through the Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve.

28. Jogi Mahal and Padam Talao are prominent heritage and ecological landmarks situated within which of the following wildlife reserves?
(A) Sariska Tiger Reserve
(B) Ranthambore National Park
(C) Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve
(D) Keoladeo National Park

29. Consider the following statements regarding the Sariska Tiger Reserve:
I. It houses the historically significant Kankanwadi Fort.
II. It was declared a Tiger Reserve in the year 1978.
III. It lies in the highly arid desert bio-geographic zone of western Rajasthan.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

30. The first successful relocation of a tiger to Sariska in 2008 involved a male tiger airlifted from Ranthambore. What was the official designation of this first relocated tiger?
(A) T-16 (Machli)
(B) T-24 (Ustad)
(C) ST-6
(D) ST-1

31. Keoladeo National Park is internationally recognized under a global treaty for the conservation of wetlands. In which year was it designated as a Ramsar site?
(A) 1971
(B) 1981
(C) 1990
(D) 2002

32. Which of the following statements about Keoladeo National Park's UNESCO World Heritage status is incorrect?
(A) It was officially inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985 for its exceptional wetland ecosystem.
(B) It was inscribed as a mixed site due to Bharatpur Fort inside the park.
(C) It currently remains the sole designated natural UNESCO World Heritage Site in the entire state of Rajasthan.
(D) It was inscribed under global criteria for hosting critical natural habitats for in-situ biodiversity conservation.

33. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Desert National Park is highly vulnerable to the loss of the Great Indian Bustard population.
Reason (R): High-tension power transmission lines in the park's vicinity cause significant mortality among these heavy-flying birds due to collisions.
In the context of the above two statements, select the correct option:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

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34. The state government of Rajasthan proposed the establishment of a captive breeding centre specifically for the Great Indian Bustard to boost its population. Where is this centre located?
(A) Sam (Jaisalmer)
(B) Phalodi (Jodhpur)
(C) Tal Chhapar (Churu)
(D) Gajner (Bikaner)

35. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: Wildlife Sanctuary
P. Sitamata Sanctuary
Q. National Chambal Sanctuary
R. Mount Abu Sanctuary
S. Kumbhalgarh Sanctuary
List II: Key Species / Feature
1. Gharial (Gavialis gangeticus)
2. Indian Wolf (Canis lupus pallipes)
3. Flying Squirrel

correct

85. In the terminology used by the Rajasthan Forest Department, an "Enclosure" constructed within a sanctuary (such as the one used in the Desert National Park for the Great Indian Bustard) is primarily defined as:
(A) A heavily fortified administrative outpost constructed inside core forest zones to protect forest guards from armed poaching networks.
(B) A permanent concrete enclosure facility built by the veterinary department to house permanently injured or sick wild animals.
(C) A fenced, predator-proof area protecting wild breeding populations.
(D) An elevated glass viewing platform and tourist gallery constructed specifically for foreign visitors to observe wildlife safely.

86. Which minor wildlife sanctuary in Rajasthan is situated on a plateau and is historically known for the dense forests surrounding the fort of Maharana Pratap's birth?
(A) Jamwa Ramgarh Sanctuary
(B) Kumbhalgarh Sanctuary
(C) Sajjangarh Sanctuary
(D) Jaisamand Sanctuary

87. 'Python Point', a famous location to observe large Indian Rock Pythons basking in the sun during the winter months, is a popular attraction inside which sanctuary?
(A) Ranthambore National Park
(B) Sariska Tiger Reserve
(C) Tal Chhapar Sanctuary
(D) Keoladeo National Park

88. Consider the following statements regarding the Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve:
I. It was the 52nd Tiger Reserve to be notified in India.
II. It is spread primarily across the Bundi district.
III. The Mez River, a tributary of the Chambal, passes through this reserve.
IV. It connects the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve in the northeast to the Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve on the southern side.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

89. Which of the following wildlife sanctuaries in Rajasthan is geographically closest to the state capital, Jaipur, and was once the hunting ground of the Jaipur Maharajas?
(A) Shergarh Sanctuary
(B) Bandh Baretha Sanctuary
(C) Jamwa Ramgarh Sanctuary
(D) Darrah Sanctuary

90. A wildlife manager observes that the prey density in a newly designated buffer zone is significantly lower than in the core zone. According to modern wildlife management principles applied in Rajasthan, which of the following interventions is the most appropriate first step to improve prey base?
(A) Habitat restoration by clearing invasive plants and reviving native grasses.
(B) Providing regular supplementary artificial feeding stations for large carnivores to intentionally decrease their natural reliance on wild prey.
(C) Translocating hundreds of captive-bred wild herbivores from adjacent state reserves to instantly populate the buffer ecosystem.
(D) Erecting continuous high concrete perimeter walls along sanctuary borders to permanently prevent carnivores from ranging into buffer lands.

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does not form the core zone of Kumbhalgarh National Park, operating as a distinct protected conservation reserve instead in Rajasthan.

82. (A) To support rescue, ex-situ conservation, and public education.
Biological parks established near major cities in Rajasthan (such as Sajjangarh in Udaipur and Nahargarh in Jaipur) serve to support ex-situ biodiversity conservation, animal rescue, and public environmental education. By displaying rescued or captive-bred wild animals in naturalistic enclosures, they reduce tourist pressure on sensitive core sanctuaries and tiger reserves significantly.

83. (C) Desert National Park
Desert National Park is situated in the hyper-arid Thar Desert of western Rajasthan across Jaisalmer and Barmer, far away from the Aravalli mountain range. In contrast, Kumbhalgarh Sanctuary, Todgarh Raoli Sanctuary, and Mount Abu Sanctuary are located directly along different mountain sections and ridges of the Aravalli range system in Rajasthan.

84. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, Tiger Reserves require declaring an undisturbed 'Core' or Critical Tiger Habitat and an peripheral 'Buffer' area. While commercial human activities are strictly prohibited in core zones, regulated eco-tourism and pre-existing traditional agricultural activities are legally permitted within designated buffer areas under managed forestry guidelines statewide.

85. (C) A fenced, predator-proof area protecting wild breeding populations.
In Rajasthan's wildlife sanctuaries, such as the Desert National Park, an 'Enclosure' refers to a fenced, predator-proof area constructed to protect vulnerable wildlife species and native flora. In GIB management, these protected exclosures exclude stray dogs, cattle, and predators, allowing Great Indian Bustards to forage and nest undisturbed safely overall.

86. (B) Kumbhalgarh Sanctuary
Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary in Rajsamand, Pali, and Udaipur districts encompasses a hilly plateau surrounding the majestic 15th-century Kumbhalgarh Fort, the historic birthplace of Maharana Pratap. Covered with dry deciduous forests and teak patches, the sanctuary provides crucial protection for wild wolves, leopards, sloth bears, and four-horned antelopes in Rajasthan.

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87. (D) Keoladeo National Park
'Python Point' is a famous ecological attraction located within Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur. During the cold winter months, visitors and birdwatchers frequently observe large Indian Rock Pythons emerging from underground burrows to bask in sunlight on grassy mounds, open clearings, and rocks near the park's wetland channels across the park.

88. (D) I, II, III, and IV
Ramgarh Vishdhari was notified as India's 52nd Tiger Reserve in May 2022, situated mainly in Bundi district. The Mez River, a key Chambal tributary, flows through its forest landscape. Geographically, it serves as an indispensable connective corridor linking Ranthambore Tiger Reserve in the northeast to Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve southward in Rajasthan.

89. (C) Jamwa Ramgarh Sanctuary
Jamwa Ramgarh Sanctuary, located in Jaipur district, is geographically the closest wildlife sanctuary to Rajasthan's capital city, Jaipur. Historically functioning as exclusive hunting reserves for the Kachhwaha Maharajas of Jaipur, this forest area now protects dry deciduous vegetation, leopards, striped hyenas, jackals, and diverse avian species along the Aravalli hills region.

90. (A) Habitat restoration by clearing invasive plants and reviving native grasses.
To sustainably enhance prey density in wildlife buffer zones, modern wildlife management prioritizes habitat restoration by eradicating invasive weeds like Lantana camara and Prosopis juliflora and reviving indigenous palatable grasses. This ecological approach improves forage availability for native wild ungulates like chital and sambar, naturally expanding the carnivore prey base effectively.

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10. (A) IV, II, I, III
Project Tiger notifications in Rajasthan followed a chronological sequence across decades. Ranthambore was declared in the initial batch in 1973, followed by Sariska in 1978. Mukundra Hills received official notification as the third reserve in 2013, and Ramgarh Vishdhari was notified as the fourth tiger reserve in May 2022 across Rajasthan.

11. (D) Blackbuck
Tal Chhapar Sanctuary, located in the Churu district of Rajasthan, is world-famous for protecting large herds of Blackbuck. Situated on a flat saline depression covered with nutritious grasses like Mothiya, this open grassland sanctuary provides an ideal habitat, forage, and protection for these fast-running wild antelopes in their native range.

12. (B) Flying Squirrel
Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary in Pratapgarh and Chittorgarh districts is famous for hosting the highest density of the Indian Giant Flying Squirrel in Rajasthan. Living among tall teak, mahua, and bamboo trees in this dense deciduous ecosystem, these nocturnal arboreal mammals glided seamlessly between tree canopies during dusk and night hours.

13. (A) I, II, and III only
Chinkara was designated the wild State Animal in 1981, and Camel was declared the livestock State Animal in 2014. Chinkara's scientific name is Gazella bennettii. However, while Chinkara is protected under Schedule I, the Camel is a domesticated species governed by specific state legislation rather than Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act.

14. (D) Ardeotis nigriceps
The scientific name of the Great Indian Bustard, designated as the official State Bird of Rajasthan in 1981, is Ardeotis nigriceps. Locally known as Godawan, this critically endangered avian species inhabits dry grasslands and arid plains, facing severe threats from habitat loss and high-voltage power lines across western India in recent years.

15. (B) 2013
Rajasthan became the first state in India to launch 'Project Great Indian Bustard' on World Environment Day, June 5, 2013. Designed to prevent the extinction of Godawan, the project focused on habitat improvement, constructing predator-proof enclosures, in-situ conservation, and establishing specialized breeding facilities in the Thar desert region overall.

16. (B) Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve
Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary in Bundi district was formally designated and notified as Rajasthan's fourth Tiger Reserve in May 2022. Covering over 1,500 square kilometers across core and buffer areas, it serves as a vital ecological corridor connecting Ranthambore Tiger Reserve with the Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve landscape in the region.

17. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
High population pressure around Ranthambore and Sariska has caused severe forest fragmentation and agricultural encroachment into natural wildlife corridors. As wild ungulates and big cats venture out of core protected areas seeking water, territory, or prey, human-wildlife encounters increase sharply, triggering crop damage, livestock predation, and conflict throughout peripheral village areas.

18. (A) Desert National Park
Spanning across 3,162 square kilometers in the Jaisalmer and Barmer districts, Desert National Park is geographically the largest protected wildlife area in Rajasthan. Its expansive boundary protects fragile desert sand dunes, gravel plains, and unique xerophytic ecosystems that shelter critical populations of the Great Indian Bustard and desert wildlife species today.

19. (C) Bishnoi
In 1730 at Khejarli village near Jodhpur, 363 members of the Bishnoi community, led by Amrita Devi, sacrificed their lives to prevent the cutting of sacred Khejri trees by royal soldiers. This historic event highlights the Bishnoi faith's deep religious commitment to protecting forests and wildlife against environmental and ecological destruction.

20. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Khichan village in Jodhpur is a famous wintering ground for Demoiselle Cranes (Kurja). Keoladeo National Park historically hosted wintering Siberian Cranes. Jawai Dam in Pali provides winter habitat for Bar-headed Geese, while Sambhar Lake attracts vast flocks of Greater

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flow, and territory expansion across eastern Rajasthan reserves effectively.

42. (A) Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ)
Under the Environment Protection Act, 1986, buffer areas designated around national parks and wildlife sanctuaries are called Eco-Sensitive Zones. These regulated transition zones cushion protected core ecosystems from industrial expansion, commercial mining, and urbanization, regulating development while supporting wildlife corridors and local environmental sustainability around protected area boundaries in Rajasthan.

43. (A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
Orans are sacred groves traditionally conserved by rural communities across Rajasthan, dedicated to local deities or spiritual figures. Strict cultural and socio-religious taboos forbid cutting green trees, harvesting timber, or harming animals within an Oran, making these community-managed patches vital decentralized sanctuaries for indigenous flora and fauna throughout the desert region.

44. (B) Kumbhalgarh
Kumbhalgarh is officially designated as a Wildlife Sanctuary, whereas Ranthambore, Mukundra Hills, Ramgarh Vishdhari, Sariska, and Dholpur-Karauli are notified Tiger Reserves under Project Tiger in Rajasthan. Although a tiger reserve proposal for Kumbhalgarh has been discussed, it remains classified as a sanctuary in current administrative status across the state.

45. (C) A traditional wildlife census method using footprint tracks.
The pugmark technique is a traditional wildlife monitoring and census method where individual animal tracks and footprints are recorded on sandy soil or prepared PIPs (Pugmark Impression Pads). Forest officials analyze unique footprint dimensions, stride lengths, and shape characteristics to estimate predator populations, particularly tigers and leopards across protected forests.

46. (D) Siberian Crane
Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur was historically the regular wintering habitat for the critically endangered Siberian Crane (Leucogeranus leucogeranus). Travelling thousands of kilometers from Arctic Russia along the Central Asian Flyway, these majestic white cranes last visited the wetland park during the winter of 2001–2002 before disappearing from India completely.

47. (A) Nilgai (Blue Bull)
Nilgai, or Blue Bull, is classified under Schedule III (or lower schedules) of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, granting it lesser protection due to its high population and agricultural damage issues. In contrast, Great Indian Bustard, Indian Leopard, and Blackbuck are protected under Schedule I with maximum legal protection enforced.

48. (B) Desert National Park — Wet evergreen forest
Desert National Park is situated in the hyper-arid Thar Desert across Jaisalmer and Barmer, characterized by sand dunes, scrub vegetation, and dry grasslands, rather than wet evergreen forests. Wet evergreen forests require heavy tropical rainfall, whereas western Rajasthan experiences low rainfall and highly desertic environmental conditions throughout the year.

49. (B) One in each District
Under the 2022-23 state budget announcement, the Rajasthan government established 'Luv Kush Vatikas' across every district in the state. Designed near forest lands, these eco-parks aim to promote environmental awareness, preserve indigenous plant species, foster eco-tourism, and provide local communities with recreational spaces rooted in ecological conservation across Rajasthan.

50. (A) Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
The National Tiger Conservation Authority was constituted as a statutory body under Section 38IV of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, following the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act of 2006. NTCA provides statutory oversight, funding approval, and standardization for tiger reserve management, anti-poaching operations, and translocation programs across India today.

51. (C) Ranthambore National Park
Machli, officially cataloged as T-16, was the legendary tigress of Ranthambore National Park. Known for her iconic fish-shaped facial mark and dominance over lakeside territories, she became the world's most photographed wild tigress, playing an instrumental role in boosting

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under the Ramsar Convention. This recognition was granted due to its unique man-made wetland ecosystem, which serves as a vital wintering habitat for millions of migratory waterfowl and wading birds across Central Asia.

32. (B) It was inscribed as a mixed site due to Bharatpur Fort inside the park.
Keoladeo National Park was inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985 strictly under the Natural category, rather than as a Mixed site, because of its critical wetland habitat for global biodiversity. Bharatpur Fort is located outside the park boundaries, and Keoladeo remains Rajasthan's only natural World Heritage Site today.

33. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The Great Indian Bustard in Desert National Park faces a severe threat of population decline due to collision with high-tension overhead electricity transmission cables. Being heavy birds with poor frontal vision, they cannot detect wires in time while flying, making overhead power infrastructure the leading cause of adult mortality in Rajasthan.

34. (A) Sam (Jaisalmer)
Rajasthan established a dedicated Great Indian Bustard Conservation Breeding Centre at Sam in Jaisalmer district within the Desert National Park. Operating under Project GIB, this facility focuses on collecting wild eggs, artificial incubation, chick rearing, and captive breeding to rebuild the endangered population of the state bird in the region.

35. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Sitamata Sanctuary is famous for the Flying Squirrel. National Chambal Sanctuary is renowned for protecting the critically endangered Gharial. Mount Abu Sanctuary hosts the rare endemic plant Dicliptera abuensis, while Kumbhalgarh Sanctuary is notable for sheltering significant wild populations of the Indian Wolf in its hilly terrain and forest area.

36. (D) Mothiya (Cyperus rotundus)
Mothiya, scientifically known as Cyperus rotundus, is a nutrient-rich wild sedge grass abundant in the flat saline depressions of Tal Chhapar Sanctuary in Churu. Featuring sweet, tuberous roots, this grass serves as the vital primary forage sustaining the large resident Blackbuck population throughout the changing dry seasons each year.

37. (A) I, III, IV, II
Arranging these protected areas geographically from North to South across Rajasthan: Tal Chhapar Sanctuary in Churu is northernmost, followed by Sariska Tiger Reserve in Alwar. Moving southward, Kumbhalgarh Sanctuary is located across Rajsamand and Pali, while Sitamata Sanctuary in Pratapgarh and Chittorgarh occupies the southernmost geographical position in the state.

38. (B) Todgarh Raoli Sanctuary
Todgarh Raoli Wildlife Sanctuary is geographically unique in Rajasthan as its core and buffer forest areas stretch across the borders of three districts: Ajmer, Pali, and Rajsamand. Established in 1983 in the Aravalli range, it protects diverse dry deciduous flora, leopards, sloth bears, and various herbivore species across the region.

39. (D) To curb camel population decline and ban slaughter and illegal export.
The Camel was declared the official State Animal under the livestock category in 2014 to arrest the rapid decline in its population caused by mechanization and habitat loss. This declaration was accompanied by state legislation prohibiting camel slaughter and banning their illegal transport or export outside Rajasthan borders effectively.

40. (A) I, II, and III only
The Great Indian Bustard, locally called Godawan, is an arid grassland specialist avoiding thick forests. Under Project GIB, the 'My Hatchling' conservation initiative involved collecting wild eggs for ex-situ artificial hatching. However, its total global population is drastically endangered and numbers well below 150 individuals, not over 1,000 individuals today.

41. (C) Ranthambore Tiger Reserve
The newly notified Dholpur-Karauli Tiger Reserve in eastern Rajasthan extends tiger protection across the Vindhyan landscape. It directly adjoins and connects with Ranthambore Tiger Reserve through Kaila Devi Sanctuary, creating a continuous, contiguous wildlife corridor that facilitates tiger dispersal, gene

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while Tal Chhapar Sanctuary in Churu district provides flat saline grassland habitat for large Blackbuck herds consistently.

62. (D) Rohida (Tecomella undulata)
Rohida, known botanically as Tecomella undulata, is the official State Flower of Rajasthan, designated in 1983. Popularly called the 'Desert Teak' due to its durable timber, this drought-hardy tree produces vibrant yellow and orange flowers during spring, playing an ecological role in soil conservation across arid wildlife habitats statewide.

63. (A) It records the highest annual rainfall in Rajasthan.
Desert National Park is situated in western Rajasthan across Jaisalmer and Barmer, experiencing extremely low rainfall and hyper-arid conditions rather than high annual precipitation. The area is dominated by shifting sand dunes, gravel plains, xerophytic vegetation, and desert wildlife, including the spiny-tailed lizard and Great Indian Bustard species in India.

64. (A) 1, 2, 3
In descending order of total notified area (combining core and buffer zones), Ranthambore Tiger Reserve is the largest (spanning over 1,411 sq km), followed by Sariska Tiger Reserve (covering around 1,213 sq km). Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve ranks third among these three with a total area of approximately 759 sq km overall.

65. (B) To identify individual tigers using unique stripe patterns.
Camera traps are motion-activated photographic devices widely deployed across tiger reserves like Ranthambore and Sariska to capture wild big cats. Because every tiger possesses a unique, distinct stripe pattern similar to human fingerprints, researchers and wildlife officials analyze camera trap images for accurate individual tiger identification, population estimation, and monitoring effectively.

66. (A) Keoladeo National Park is an entirely natural, rain-fed wetland ecosystem.
Keoladeo National Park is not an entirely natural wetland; it was artificially developed in the 1850s by building the Ajan Dam to divert water from the Gambhir and Banganga rivers into shallow depressions. In contrast, Sitamata contains northern teak limits, Tal Chhapar sits on saline flats, and Mount Abu hosts endemic Dicliptera abuensis.

67. (C) A species naturally restricted to a specific geographical area.
Endemism refers to the ecological state of a species being native and restricted strictly to a specific, defined geographical location or ecosystem, and found nowhere else in the wild naturally. In Rajasthan, plants like Dicliptera abuensis in Mount Abu represent endemic flora adapted exclusively to localized micro-climates and soil conditions locally.

68. (D) I, II, III, and IV
Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve encompasses Darrah Sanctuary, Jawahar Sagar Sanctuary, and parts of Chambal Sanctuary across Kota, Bundi, Jhalawar, and Chittorgarh. It protects rich biodiversity, including Indian Wolves and Gagroni Parrots, and was established in 2013 to form a third viable tiger breeding population in Rajasthan alongside Ranthambore and Sariska reserves.

69. (C) National Chambal Sanctuary
The National Chambal Sanctuary is a multi-state tri-junction aquatic protected area along the Chambal River, specifically designated to preserve the critically endangered Gharial (Gavialis gangeticus). Featuring clean, deep flowing water, sandbanks for nesting, and undisturbed riverine stretches, it offers the ideal natural habitat for studying wild Gharial populations in Rajasthan.

NODIA

70. (B) State policy compensates farmers for crop damage by wild herbivores.
To mitigate agricultural distress and prevent retaliatory killings of wildlife, the Rajasthan Forest Department provides monetary compensation to farmers whose crops are damaged by wild herbivores like Nilgai and wild boar near protected area borders. Crop depredation is primarily caused by herbivores rather than apex carnivores like tigers or leopards overall.

71. (D) Jogi Mahal
Jogi Mahal is an iconic red sandstone structure situated at the foot of Ranthambore Fort near Padam Talao in Ranthambore National Park. Constructed by Sawai Madho Singh I as a

wildlife eco-tourism and strengthening wild tiger populations in Rajasthan reserves.

52. (D) The state possesses the highest percentage of dense tropical rainforest cover in India.
Rajasthan features arid and semi-arid zones dominated by dry deciduous, thorny, and xerophytic vegetation like Khejri and Rohida. It does not possess tropical rainforest cover, as rainforests require continuous high rainfall and humidity found in Western Ghats and Northeast India, making rainforest claims factually incorrect for desertic Rajasthan geography entirely.

53. (C) Keoladeo National Park
Keoladeo National Park was placed on the Montreux Record in 1990 under the Ramsar Convention due to changes in its ecological character caused by water scarcity and invasive weed growth, such as Paspalum distichum. The Montreux Record highlights priority international wetland sites requiring urgent conservation action and restoration efforts in India.

54. (A) I and II only
Keoladeo National Park derives its name from a historic Shiva temple located inside the park boundaries. Renowned ornithologist Dr. Salim Ali conducted extensive research here, advocating for its ecological protection. However, the wetland is not naturally ancient; it was artificially created in the 1850s by Maharaja Suraj Mal of Bharatpur state history.

55. (D) A protected state area acting as a buffer or migration corridor.
Under Section 36A of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, a Conservation Reserve is a government-owned protected area designated to safeguard landscapes, flora, fauna, and wildlife habitats. Typically positioned adjacent to national parks or wildlife sanctuaries, these reserves act as vital buffer zones or migratory corridors between fragmented ecosystems across Rajasthan.

56. (A) Jhalana and Amagarh
Rajasthan's 'Project Leopard' was notably launched in the forest blocks of Jhalana and Amagarh, located on the outskirts of Jaipur city. Aimed at habitat conservation, prey density management, and boundary fencing, this initiative successfully created dedicated leopard reserves, minimizing human-leopard conflicts in urban fringe areas while promoting regulated wildlife eco-tourism successfully.

57. (C) Mount Abu Sanctuary
Mount Abu Sanctuary is situated in the highest altitude zone of the Aravalli range in Sirohi district. Due to higher rainfall and elevated climate, it supports unique sub-tropical evergreen and semi-evergreen forests, hosting diverse orchid species, wild roses, and endemic flora like Dicliptera abuensis that are absent in dry plains elsewhere.

58. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
Guru Jambheshwar founded the Bishnoi community principles emphasizing strict wildlife protection, deeply embedding conservation vigilance in rural western Rajasthan. Legal prosecutions involving wild species like Blackbuck and Chinkara are strictly conducted under the specialized provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 rather than general Indian Penal Code sections in courts.

NODIA

59. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Ramgarh Vishdhari in Bundi was designated a Tiger Reserve despite harboring low resident tiger numbers because of its spatial geography. It forms a crucial ecological landscape corridor connecting the tiger populations of Ranthambore Tiger Reserve to Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve, facilitating wild tiger dispersal, gene flow, and territorial stability in Rajasthan.

60. (B) Heavy pressure from livestock grazing and illegal fuel-wood collection.
The tiger population in Ranthambore Tiger Reserve faces severe anthropogenic pressure from livestock grazing and illicit collection of firewood by peripheral villages. Encroachment of domestic cattle depletes natural herbivore forage, while human presence in core and buffer regions increases disturbance, fragments habitat, and escalates human-wildlife conflicts throughout the park areas.

61. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
Sitamata Sanctuary is renowned for hosting the arboreal Flying Squirrel. Desert National Park shelters the endangered Great Indian Bustard in arid grasslands. Ranthambore National Park is famous for its thriving wild Tiger population,

Flamingos due to its hyper-saline wetland environment across the state.

21. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 is strictly enforced by state forest officials to curtail illegal hunting and poaching. Blackbucks are granted maximum legal protection under Schedule I of this law rather than Schedule V, strictly forbidding any selective culling or hunting of the species under any agricultural circumstances whatsoever.

22. (B) Kaila Devi Biological Park
Rajasthan has established several major biological parks to promote eco-tourism and wildlife awareness, including Nahargarh Biological Park in Jaipur, Machia Biological Park near Jodhpur, Sajjangarh Biological Park in Udaipur, and Abheda Biological Park in Kota. Kaila Devi is a wildlife sanctuary in Karauli rather than a designated biological park facility.

23. (D) Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW)
Under Section 4 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, the Chief Wildlife Warden serves as the apex statutory authority in Rajasthan specifically tasked with controlling, managing, and directing wildlife preservation. This officer holds ultimate legal jurisdiction over sanctuary administration, issuing wildlife permits, and executing conservation policies state-wide across all protected areas.

24. (A) 2, 1, 3, 4
The correct chronological timeline begins with the enactment of the Wildlife Protection Act in 1972, followed by the national launch of Project Tiger in 1973. Later, the Environment Protection Act was enacted in 1986, and the statutory National Tiger Conservation Authority was constituted via an amendment in 2006 nationwide today.

25. (C) The Khichan village bird feeding initiative
Khichan village in Jodhpur district represents an internationally acclaimed community conservation model where local residents systematically feed and protect thousands of migratory Demoiselle Cranes (Kurja) every winter. Villagers organize grain feeding stations called Chugga Ghars, ensuring safe feeding grounds and predator protection for these visiting avian winter migrants every single year.

26. (A) State Bird - Pavo cristatus
The State Bird of Rajasthan is the Great Indian Bustard, scientifically named Ardeotis nigriceps. Pavo cristatus is the scientific name of the Indian Peacock, which is India's National Bird. Meanwhile, Khejri (Prosopis cineraria), Rohida (Tecomella undulata), and Chinkara (Gazella bennettii) are correctly paired state symbols of Rajasthan in state geography.

27. (D) The Chambal river flows through the Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve.
The perennial Chambal River flows directly through Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve and its surrounding aquatic sanctuaries, forming dramatic river gorges and offering crucial habitat for Gharials and marsh crocodiles. In contrast, Banas does not border Desert National Park, nor is Luni the water source for Keoladeo or Mahi for Ranthambore National Park.

28. (B) Ranthambore National Park
Jogi Mahal, a historic 19th-century hunting lodge, and Padam Talao, the park's largest natural lake, are prominent historic and geographical landmarks located in the heart of Ranthambore National Park. These features provide vital water sources and habitat for tigers, sambar deer, aquatic birds, and marsh crocodiles in the region.

29. (A) I and II only
Sariska Tiger Reserve contains the historical 17th-century Kankanwadi Fort within its boundary, where Prince Dara Shikoh was imprisoned by Aurangzeb. It was declared a Tiger Reserve under Project Tiger in 1978. However, Sariska is located in the Aravalli hills of eastern Rajasthan, not in the western desert zone of India.

30. (D) ST-1
In July 2008, India executed its first successful tiger reintroduction by airlifting a male tiger designated ST-1 from Ranthambore National Park to Sariska Tiger Reserve via an Indian Air Force helicopter. This landmark translocation aimed to restore the tiger population in Sariska following its total extinction due to severe illegal poaching.

31. (B) 1981
Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur was designated as a Ramsar Site (Wetland of International Importance) in October 1981

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royal hunting lodge, it later served as a forest rest house and landmark for wildlife enthusiasts visiting the tiger reserve today.

72. (A) Anti-Poaching Task Force
The Rajasthan Forest Department established dedicated Anti-Poaching Task Forces and specialized intelligence cells to combat organized wildlife crime, illegal poaching, and trade in animal body parts. Operating in high-risk zones like Ranthambore and Sariska, these units conduct intelligence-led patrols, intercept poachers, and enforce statutory protections under wildlife conservation laws in Rajasthan.

73. (C) Forming Eco-Development Committees to support local livelihoods.
Eco-Development Committees engage forest-fringe village communities in sustainable participatory management around Rajasthan's sanctuaries. By providing alternate livelihood opportunities, solar lights, LPG connections, and eco-tourism revenue sharing, these committees reduce local reliance on forest fuel-wood collection and livestock grazing, thereby minimizing human pressure on protected core habitats and wildlife corridors in Rajasthan.

74. (A) Jodhpur
Machia Biological Park is located near Kaylana Lake in Jodhpur district, Rajasthan. Established as an ex-situ conservation and educational facility, it houses diverse desert fauna including blackbucks, chinkaras, desert foxes, wolves, and leopards in spacious naturalistic enclosures, serving as a key center for environmental awareness and regional eco-tourism in Rajasthan.

75. (D) Mukundra Hills declared a Tiger Reserve — 2013
Mukundra Hills was officially notified as Rajasthan's third Tiger Reserve in April 2013. In contrast, Ranthambore was declared a National Park in 1980 (not 1973, which was its Project Tiger start), Keoladeo became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985 (not 1995), and Project GIB was launched in 2013 (not 2005) definitely.

76. (B) Tribal poaching for international pet trade.
The decline of the Great Indian Bustard in Desert National Park is driven by habitat fragmentation, overhead power line collisions, and egg predation by feral dogs, jackals, and desert foxes. Illegal tribal poaching for the international pet trade is not a major recognized cause of its population decline in Rajasthan today.

77. (C) It funds afforestation to offset forest land diverted for non-forest use.
The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority collects funds from user agencies whenever forest land is diverted for non-forest development projects like mining or infrastructure. In Rajasthan, CAMPA funds finance compensatory afforestation, artificial regeneration, wildlife habitat restoration, forest boundary pillars, and infrastructure protection to offset ecological losses across the state.

78. (D) The successful breeding and birth of wild tiger cubs from relocated tigers.
Following the 2008 tiger relocation program from Ranthambore to Sariska Tiger Reserve, a major conservation milestone was achieved when relocated tigress ST-2 successfully gave birth to two wild tiger cubs in 2012. This breeding success confirmed the viability of translocation programs and initiated natural tiger population recovery in Sariska Reserve.

79. (A) National Chambal Sanctuary
The National Chambal Sanctuary spans the deep river gorges along the Chambal River in southeastern Rajasthan. Known for its pristine aquatic ecosystem, the river is heavily populated by Gharials and marsh crocodiles (muggers). It provides protected sandbanks and deep river pools essential for the reproduction and survival of these reptiles statewide.

80. (B) The Chief Minister of Rajasthan
Under Section 6 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, the Chief Minister of Rajasthan serves as the ex-officio Chairperson of the State Board for Wildlife. This board functions as the apex advisory authority on wildlife conservation, advising state government departments on policy formulation, sanctuary declarations, eco-sensitive zone management, and protection measures statewide.

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81. (A) I and II only
Jawai Bandh in Pali district is officially designated as a Leopard Conservation Reserve, world-renowned for harmonious co-existence between wild leopards and local Rabari pastoralists amidst granite hill landscapes. However, it

ANSWERS

1. (B) The Indian Desert Zone
The Indian Desert Zone covers the largest area in Rajasthan, encompassing the Thar Desert across prominent western districts like Jaisalmer and Barmer. This extensive bio-geographic zone heavily conditions the regional ecosystem, shaping the unique xerophytic vegetation and specialized desert-adapted wildlife species found within key western wildlife sanctuaries such as Desert National Park.

2. (A) Dhok (Anogeissus pendula)
Dhok, botanically classified as Anogeissus pendula, is the most dominant tree species in the tropical dry deciduous forests of Ranthambore National Park. It forms over eighty percent of the forest canopy across the rugged terrain, shedding its leaves during the dry summer months to conserve vital moisture and adapt to extreme seasonal drought.

3. (D) I, II and III
Ranthambore's conservation history reflects three key milestones. The reserve was initially established as the Sawai Madhopur Game Sanctuary in 1955. Following national initiatives, it was included in the first phase of Project Tiger upon its launch in 1973, and later was upgraded to a protected National Park status in the year 1980.

4. (D) Alwar
Sariska Tiger Reserve is situated in the Aravalli range within the Alwar district of Rajasthan. Declared a wildlife reserve in 1955 and incorporated into Project Tiger in 1978, its core area features dry deciduous forests, rocky landscapes, and historic sites, providing critical ecological refuge for tigers and diverse native wildlife species throughout the region.

5. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Severe poaching and habitat degradation led to the complete extirpation of the native tiger population in Sariska Tiger Reserve by late 2004 and early 2005. To reverse this local extinction and restore the apex predator to the ecosystem, the National Tiger Conservation Authority launched a pioneering tiger relocation programme in the year 2008.

6. (B) Ajan Dam
Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur relies on water channeled from the Ajan Dam, constructed across the Gambhir and Banganga rivers. Water released from this masonry reservoir feeds the park's intricate network of artificial canals and shallow seasonal wetlands, sustaining thousands of diverse resident and migratory waterbirds during the extensive annual winter breeding season.

7. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
Bandh Baretha Sanctuary is situated in Bharatpur district, serving as an important wetland and forest area. Phulwari Ki Nal Sanctuary lies in Udaipur district along the Aravallis. Shergarh Sanctuary is located in Baran district along the Parban River, while Todgarh Raoli Sanctuary spans across Ajmer, Pali, and Rajsamand districts in central Rajasthan.

8. (A) The Akal Wood Fossil Park with ancient petrified wood
The Desert National Park encompasses Akal Wood Fossil Park near Jaisalmer, which houses petrified tree trunks and plant fossils dating back over one hundred and eighty million years to the Jurassic Period. This site provides tangible geological evidence of a prehistoric humid forest before the region transformed into the present Thar Desert.

9. (C) The reserve is situated exclusively in the Udaipur district.
Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve is spread across Kota, Bundi, Jhalawar, and Chittorgarh districts in southeastern Rajasthan, rather than Udaipur district. Formed by combining the Darrah, Jawahar Sagar, and National Chambal Sanctuaries, it became Rajasthan's third tiger reserve in 2013 and is well-known for hosting the rare Gagroni Parrot (Alexandrine parakeet) species.

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CHAPTER 16
Soils of Rajasthan

1. Which soil type covers the largest geographical area in the state of Rajasthan?
(A) Alluvial soils
(B) Desert (Sandy) soils
(C) Black (Regur) soils
(D) Red and Yellow soils

2. The Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), which plays a pivotal role in soil stabilization and desertification studies, was established in which year and city?
(A) 1952, Bikaner
(B) 1959, Jodhpur
(C) 1965, Jaipur
(D) 1972, Jaisalmer

3. What is the primary cause of the "Sem" problem frequently observed in the command areas of the Indira Gandhi Canal Project?
(A) Deep gully erosion caused by canal breaches
(B) High wind velocity eroding the topsoil
(C) Waterlogging and rising of the water table
(D) Excessive use of organic manure

4. In the context of Rajasthan's pedology, the term 'Regur' is traditionally used to describe which type of soil?
(A) Highly saline soils of the Luni basin
(B) Red loam soils of the southern tribal belt
(C) Wind-blown sand dunes of the Thar desert
(D) Black soils found in the Hadoti region

5. Match the soil types in List I with their dominant occurrence regions in Rajasthan in List II.
List I: (Soil Type)
P. Alluvial Soils
Q. Black Soils
R. Desert Soils
S. Red Loam Soils
List II: (Dominant Occurrence Region)
1. Western Rajasthan
2. Southern Rajasthan
3. Eastern Plains
4. South-Eastern Plateau
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

6. From which location in Rajasthan did the Prime Minister of India launch the nationwide Soil Health Card Scheme in February 2015?
(A) Pokhran, Jaisalmer
(B) Suratgarh, Sri Ganganagar
(C) Nokha, Bikaner
(D) Phalodi, Jodhpur

7. Which of the following districts is NOT predominantly characterized by the presence of Red and Yellow soils?
(A) Sawai Madhopur
(B) Bhilwara
(C) Ajmer
(D) Jaisalmer

8. The medium black soils of the Hadoti region generally require less frequent irrigation compared to sandy soils primarily because:
(A) They contain high clay content, giving them superior moisture retention capacity.
(B) They are located in low-lying river basins subject to frequent perennial river floods.
(C) They possess very high soil permeability, allowing water to reach plant roots quickly.
(D) They possess high natural soil salinity, which reduces the transpiration rate of plants.

9. A farmer in Banswara district is planning his crop cycle. Given the naturally dominant red loam soil of this district, which of the following crops is most traditionally suited for cultivation here?
(A) Mustard
(B) Bajra
(C) Maize
(D) Isabgol

10. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Wind erosion is the most dominant and destructive form of soil erosion in western Rajasthan.

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P. Khadin
Q. Sem
R. Chappi / Papdi
S. Kankar

List II: (Meaning)
1. Calcium carbonate nodules in the subsoil
2. Traditional run-off farming and soil moisture conservation system
3. Problem of waterlogging and rising water tables
4. Hard surface crust formation that hinders seed germination

(A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

66. Which method of irrigation is most recommended by agronomists to minimize both soil erosion and waterlogging in the highly permeable sandy loam soils of western Rajasthan?
(A) Drip systems
(B) Uncontrolled free flooding
(C) Conventional furrow irrigation
(D) Traditional check basin irrigation

67. Which of the following is NOT a primary cause of secondary salinization in the canal command areas of Rajasthan?
(A) Seepage of water from unlined canal networks
(B) Excessive surface flood irrigation practices
(C) Applying organic farmyard manure
(D) Poor or absent sub-surface soil drainage

68. A farmer applies to the Rajasthan Department of Agriculture for a subsidy to purchase gypsum. Based on this input requirement, his agricultural land most likely suffers from:
(A) High soil acidity with abnormally low pH levels
(B) Severe nitrogen and organic matter deficiency
(C) Waterlogging without any surface salt accumulation
(D) High soil alkalinity (sodic soil)

69. The 'Bhuri' (Brown) sandy soils, distinct from the grey-brown soils of the Luni basin, are prominently associated with the catchment area of which river in Rajasthan?
(A) Chambal
(B) Mahi
(C) Banas
(D) Ghaggar

70. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The red and yellow soils of southern and central Rajasthan generally require regular and balanced application of fertilizers to sustain high crop yields.
Reason (R): These soils have been subjected to leaching over time and are naturally deficient in nitrogen, phosphorus, and organic humus.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

71. Regarding the policy implementation of the Soil Health Card Scheme in Rajasthan, what is its primary operational goal at the farmer level?
(A) To legally mandate specific cropping patterns that local farmers must grow each season
(B) To serve as an official legal ownership document required for farmland registration
(C) To automatically disburse low-interest agricultural cash loans directly to bank accounts
(D) To report soil nutrient status and recommend fertilizer doses

72. Identify the INCORRECT statement regarding the soils of the Hadoti plateau (Kota, Bundi, Baran, Jhalawar).
(A) They are naturally very rich in nitrogen and organic matter.
(B) They possess self-ploughing characteristics due to deep cracking in summer.
(C) They are highly retentive of moisture.
(D) They are particularly well-suited for cash crops like cotton and soybean.

73. Which of the following districts contains significant tracts of naturally occurring salt-affected (saline) soils owing to the presence of internal drainage basins and salt lakes?
(A) Banswara
(B) Dungarpur
(C) Nagaur
(D) Pratapgarh

74. The agricultural practice of 'Mulching' is highly recommended for the dryland farming regions of Rajasthan because it primarily helps by:
(A) Retaining soil moisture and controlling

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matter and humus.
IV. They are highly suitable for drought-resistant crops like bajra and moth bean.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

21. Which district in Rajasthan is primarily covered by 'Alfisols' according to the USDA soil taxonomy?
(A) Jaisalmer
(B) Bikaner
(C) Jaipur
(D) Dungarpur

22. Desertification and soil degradation in western Rajasthan are primarily driven by a combination of which factors?
(A) Excessive afforestation projects and low livestock grazing pressure
(B) Overgrazing, deforestation, and wind erosion
(C) Heavy chemical fertilization along with frequent river flooding
(D) Tectonic subsidence of land and sudden marine transgressions

23. What type of soil is predominant in the Ghaggar plains of Hanumangarh and Sri Ganganagar districts?
(A) Deep black clayey soil rich in montmorillonite minerals
(B) Red lateritic soil formed from iron-rich basalt rocks
(C) Shallow skeletal soil found predominantly on rocky slopes
(D) Brown alluvial soil with saline patches

24. Identify the odd one out among the following districts in terms of falling outside the deep black (Regur) soil region of Rajasthan.
(A) Barmer
(B) Kota
(C) Baran
(D) Jhalawar

25. Match the USDA Soil Orders in List I with the representative district where they are prominently found in Rajasthan in List II.
List I: (USDA Soil Orders)
P. Aridisols
Q. Inceptisols
R. Alfisols
S. Vertisols
List II: (Representative District)
1. Baran
2. Bikaner
3. Bharatpur
4. Udaipur
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(D) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3

26. In the context of the eastern plains of Rajasthan, 'Khadar' refers to:
(A) New alluvial soils deposited by periodic floods
(B) Old alluvial soils containing coarse calcareous kankar nodules
(C) Extensive patches of highly alkaline and uncultivable wastelands
(D) Red and yellow soils found predominantly in piedmont zones

27. Which of the following mechanical or vegetative measures is considered most effective for sand dune stabilization in the arid tracts of western Rajasthan?
(A) Contour trenching across steep hillside slopes
(B) Constructing large concrete retaining walls along dunes
(C) Deep continuous tractor ploughing during peak summer months
(D) Planting shelterbelts and windbreaks

28. Soil salinity in the Luni basin tends to increase towards its lower reaches (e.g., Balotra and beyond) primarily because:
(A) Local farmers exclusively use un-drained canal water, leading to rapid salt accumulation.
(B) Capillary action brings subsoil salts to the surface due to high evaporation.
(C) The region receives the highest annual rainfall in Rajasthan, causing severe mineral leaching.
(D) Excessive application of heavy organic compost is practiced continuously by local farmers.

29. Under various government soil health improvement programmes in Rajasthan, farmers are provided inputs at subsidized rates. Which of the following is primarily distributed to correct zinc deficiency in soils?

NODIA

(A) Muriate of Potash
(B) Diammonium Phosphate (DAP)
(C) Zinc Sulphate
(D) Calcium Carbonate

30. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The south-eastern districts of Rajasthan are highly suitable for soybean and cotton cultivation.
Reason (R): These districts possess medium to deep black soils that have a high water retention capacity and are rich in calcium.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

31. How does the 'Land Capability Classification' system primarily assist in Rajasthan's agricultural and soil conservation planning?
(A) It assesses land suitability for specific uses to prevent soil degradation.
(B) It legally fixes the minimum support price for agricultural crops grown on different soils.
(C) It allocates canal water irrigation rights exclusively on the basis of measured soil depth.
(D) It classifies agrarian households into socio-economic income brackets for government subsidies.

32. Arrange the following stages of water erosion in Rajasthan in their correct sequential order from initial impact to advanced degradation.
1. Rill erosion
2. Splash erosion
3. Gully erosion
4. Sheet erosion

(A) 2, 4, 1, 3
(B) 2, 1, 4, 3
(C) 4, 2, 1, 3
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4

33. Which national institution collaborates extensively with Rajasthan's agriculture department to conduct comprehensive soil surveys and create remote sensing maps for land degradation?
(A) National Institute of Oceanography (NIO)
(B) National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP)
(C) Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM)
(D) Forest Survey of India (FSI)

34. Identify the correctly matched pair regarding soil type and its highly suitable traditional crop in Rajasthan.
(A) Red Loam Soil - Maize
(B) Alluvial Soil - Isabgol
(C) Black Soil - Bajra
(D) Sandy Desert Soil - Cotton

35. Consider the following statements regarding the Black soils of Rajasthan:
I. They are formed from the weathering of basaltic rocks.
II. They are naturally deficient in nitrogen, phosphorus, and organic matter.
III. They are predominantly found in the Shekhawati region.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

36. What do the local terms 'Kallar', 'Reh', or 'Usar' refer to in the context of Rajasthan's soils?
(A) Highly fertile, flood-deposited alluvial tracts
(B) Red loam soils typical of southern hilly tracts
(C) Wind-blown shifting sand dunes in desert zones
(D) Saline and alkaline soil patches

37. The 'Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana' (PKVY) holds specific significance for the long-term health of soils in Rajasthan because it primarily promotes:
(A) The widespread adoption and high-density planting of genetically modified seeds
(B) The systematic conversion of degraded agricultural land to commercial solar farming
(C) Chemical-free organic farming and indigenous compost
(D) Intensive monoculture cropping practices supported by heavy chemical fertilization

38. Which of the following is NOT a scientifically recognized and promoted method of soil conservation in Rajasthan?
(A) Windbreaks and shelterbelts

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(B) Shifting cultivation
(C) Contour strip cropping
(D) Protective stubble mulching

39. A soil sample taken from the eastern plains (e.g., Tonk district) shows a relatively even mixture of sand, silt, and clay, and is highly fertile when irrigated. This soil is most likely classified as:
(A) Aridisol soil
(B) Deep laterite soil
(C) Peaty organic soil
(D) Loamy soil

40. Consider the following statements regarding Alluvial soils in Rajasthan:
I. They are brought down and deposited by river systems such as the Banas, Banganga, and their tributaries.
II. They are generally rich in potash but often deficient in phosphoric acid and humus.
III. They possess a higher moisture-retentive capacity compared to the desert sandy soils.
IV. They form the dominant soil type of the entire Thar desert.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, III, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, and IV only

41. In Rajasthan, the network of static and mobile State Soil Testing Laboratories operates primarily under the administrative control of which department?
(A) Department of Mines and Geology
(B) Department of Water Resources and Irrigation
(C) Department of Agriculture
(D) Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board

42. Which pedogenic process is primarily responsible for the formation of the hard 'Kankar' pan (calcium carbonate layer) in the subsoils of arid and semi-arid regions of Rajasthan?
(A) Downward calcium leaching followed by precipitation from evaporation
(B) Intense laterization driven by high tropical rainfall and weathering
(C) Advanced podzolization occurring under cool humid forest microclimates
(D) Heavy annual deposition of silicates and clays by river flooding

43. Sub-surface water drainage systems are actively being installed in parts of the Indira Gandhi Canal Project (IGNP) command area specifically to address which dual problem?
(A) Severe wind erosion and surface soil crusting
(B) Micronutrient toxicity and soil acidification
(C) Deep gully erosion and loss of fertile topsoil
(D) Waterlogging and salinization

44. Identify the odd one out. Which of the following agricultural practices degrades soil fertility and structure rather than improving it?
(A) Crop rotation with legumes
(B) Continuous monocropping
(C) Application of farmyard manure
(D) Green manuring with Dhaincha

45. Match the major commercial crops of Rajasthan in List I with the soil type most conducive to their cultivation in List II.
List I: (Commercial Crops)
P. Mustard
Q. Cotton
R. Bajra
S. Maize
List II: (Soil Type)
1. Red Loam Soil
2. Black Soil
3. Alluvial Soil
4. Desert/Sandy Soil
(A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4

46. Based on state remote sensing data, which district in Rajasthan exhibits the highest severity and largest area affected by gully erosion?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Banswara
(C) Churu
(D) Dholpur

47. Which of the following is NOT a standard parameter tested in a typical soil sample under the official Soil Health Card Scheme implemented in Rajasthan?
(A) Soil Microbial DNA Profiling
(B) Electrical Conductivity (EC)
(C) Potential Hydrogen (pH)
(D) Organic Carbon (OC)

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(C) Hadoti Region - Clayey texture
(D) Shekhawati Region - Silty clay texture

84. Identify the odd one out among the following nutrients. Which of these is a macronutrient and NOT a micronutrient tested in Rajasthan's standard soil health laboratories?
(A) Iron
(B) Manganese
(C) Copper
(D) Nitrogen

85. What is the primary ecological impact of expanding intensive agriculture using mechanized ploughing into the fragile, marginal sandy soils of western Rajasthan?
(A) It permanently stabilizes shifting sand dunes across desert regions.
(B) It causes a rapid and sustained rise in sub-surface groundwater tables.
(C) It loosens topsoil, accelerating wind erosion and desertification.
(D) It naturally transforms coarse sandy soil into fertile, productive clay loam.

86. What does the scientific term 'Pedogenesis' refer to?
(A) The mapping of crop patterns
(B) The process of soil formation and evolution
(C) The artificial drainage of waterlogged lands
(D) The study of ancient rock formations

87. If extensive canal irrigation is introduced in the desert tracts of Jaisalmer without the provision of adequate sub-surface drainage, what is the most likely long-term environmental impact on the soil?
(A) The light sandy soil will naturally transform into fertile black cotton soil over time.
(B) The entire soil profile will undergo rapid chemical leaching and laterization.
(C) The topsoil layers will become highly acidic due to intense leaching of bases.
(D) The soil will suffer from secondary salinity and waterlogging.

88. Which traditional dryland farming practice in Rajasthan does NOT contribute to soil moisture conservation or erosion control?
(A) Leaving tilled land bare during windy summer months
(B) Constructing traditional earthen embankments known locally as Khadins
(C) Mixed cropping combining deep-rooted legumes and shallow-rooted crops
(D) Applying well-decomposed farmyard manure prior to monsoon onset

89. Shelterbelts planted in western Rajasthan are most effective for soil conservation when they are oriented:
(A) Strictly parallel to the primary direction of prevailing winds
(B) Exclusively along the banks of seasonal and ephemeral rivers
(C) Perpendicular to the prevailing wind direction
(D) Planted in a completely random and unorganized scatter pattern

90. Under the Land Capability Classification system used for soil assessment, Class I and Class II lands in Rajasthan—which have few limitations restricting their use—are predominantly found in which geographical area?
(A) Eastern and south-eastern alluvial plains
(B) Hyper-arid western desert dune landscapes
(C) Steep, rocky slopes of the central Aravalli ranges
(D) Low-lying saline depressions of the Luni river basin

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plains of the Luni basin.
(C) The presence of a hard kankar layer is common in their subsoil.
(D) With adequate irrigation, they yield good crops of mustard and wheat.

57. What is the main agronomic role of incorporating leguminous crops (like moong or moth) into the crop rotation patterns of Rajasthan's sandy soils?
(A) To rapidly deplete subsoil moisture reserves in order to prevent waterlogging
(B) To intentionally increase topsoil salinity to inhibit unwanted weed growth
(C) To fix atmospheric nitrogen symbiotically and improve fertility
(D) To mechanically break up hard calcic subsoil pans through root penetration

58. In the arid regions of Rajasthan prone to high wind erosion, agricultural experts advise farmers to leave crop stubbles in the field after harvest. What is the scientific rationale for this?
(A) It cuts wind velocity at the soil surface and binds soil particles.
(B) It permanently sterilizes topsoil layer against harmful fungal plant pathogens.
(C) It effectively reflects solar radiation and significantly lowers ambient temperatures.
(D) It gradually increases the overall chemical alkalinity of subsoil layers over time.

59. Rajasthan's initiative to deploy 'Mobile Soil Testing Vans' was fundamentally launched to achieve which objective?
(A) To transport harvested agricultural crops efficiently from remote rural villages to urban mandis
(B) To drill deep exploratory borewells and measure seasonal groundwater table fluctuations
(C) To mechanically harvest and process crops grown across small fragmented landholdings
(D) To deliver on-site soil analysis and rapid advisory to farmers in remote areas

60. Consider the following statements regarding the Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI):
I. It was formally established in the year 1959.
II. Its headquarters is located in Jodhpur.
III. Its primary mandate is to study hyper-humid tropical agriculture.
IV. It conducts extensive research on sand dune stabilization and dryland farming techniques.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

61. Which category of soil dominates the intersection zones of the Aravalli foothills where both wind and water erosion actively strip away the finer particles, leaving behind coarse material?
(A) Organic Peaty soils
(B) Deep Black clay soils
(C) Lithosols
(D) Fertile Alluvial loams

62. Arrange the following USDA Land Capability Classes in order from the most suitable for regular intensive agriculture to the least suitable (most restricted).
1. Class III
2. Class I
3. Class VIII
4. Class II
(A) 2, 4, 1, 3
(B) 1, 2, 3, 4
(C) 2, 1, 4, 3
(D) 4, 3, 2, 1

63. The incorporation of green manure crops, particularly Dhaincha (Sesbania), is predominantly recommended by the state agriculture department for the reclamation of which type of soils?
(A) Saline soils
(B) Deep black clay soils
(C) Red loamy soils
(D) Stony lithosols

64. In the context of soil conservation measures applicable to the degraded lands of Rajasthan, what does the term 'agrostology' refer to?
(A) The engineering construction of stone check dams across seasonal stream gullies
(B) Grass cultivation and pasture development to bind soil and check erosion
(C) The systematic chemical treatment of agricultural seeds prior to crop sowing
(D) The advanced spatial mapping of soil degradation patterns using satellite imagery

65. Match the local terminologies related to soils and land in Rajasthan in List I with their correct meanings in List II.
List I: (Local Terminology)

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48. The reddish coloration observed in the red and yellow soils of districts like Sawai Madhopur and Bhilwara is scientifically attributed to:
(A) High cumulative concentration of decomposed organic humus
(B) Diffusion and hydration of ferric oxides in the soil
(C) Widespread presence of unweathered dark basaltic rocks
(D) Excessive long-term use of synthetic nitrogenous fertilizers

49. To sustainably increase the organic carbon content and improve the water-holding capacity of sandy soils in Bikaner, which practice is most scientifically advisable?
(A) Deep summer ploughing accompanied by complete removal of all crop residue
(B) Adding farmyard manure and incorporating crop residue
(C) Heavy chemical application of synthetic urea and muriate of potash fertilizers
(D) Continuous flood irrigation utilizing untreated surface canal water

50. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The alluvial soils of eastern Rajasthan are highly productive and support intensive agriculture.
Reason (R): They have a balanced loamy texture, lack harmful salts, and are periodically renewed by fluvial action.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

51. According to official estimates from the Space Applications Centre and CAZRI, roughly what percentage of Rajasthan's total geographical area is affected by desertification and land degradation?
(A) Less than 20%
(B) Around 35%
(C) Around 45%
(D) More than 60%

52. Select the correct geographical sequence of districts from West to East that illustrates the transition from Desert soil to Alluvial soil in Rajasthan.
(A) Jaisalmer → Jodhpur → Jaipur → Bharatpur
(B) Bharatpur → Jaipur → Jodhpur → Jaisalmer
(C) Jaisalmer → Bharatpur → Jaipur → Jodhpur
(D) Jodhpur → Jaisalmer → Bharatpur → Jaipur

53. In the context of the USDA soil classification mapped for Rajasthan, 'Entisols' are largely synonymous with which traditional category?
(A) Mature alluvial soils featuring clearly developed profile horizons
(B) Deep black clay soils formed from weathering of basalt
(C) Recent sandy desert soils lacking profile development
(D) Highly leached red loam soils found on hilly slopes

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54. The state government's flagship watershed program, the "Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan" (MJSA), indirectly yet significantly benefits soil health primarily by:
(A) Heavily subsidizing chemical nitrogenous fertilizers and synthetic pesticides for local farmers
(B) Building water harvesting structures to retain moisture and check soil erosion
(C) Free distribution of high-yielding variety drought-resistant seeds across all districts
(D) Officially converting marginal agricultural lands into notified state forest reserves

55. Consider the following statements regarding the Red Loam soils of Rajasthan:
I. They are prominently found in the districts of Dungarpur and Banswara.
II. They are derived from the weathering of ancient crystalline and metamorphic rocks.
III. They are characterized by a highly alkaline pH, making them unsuitable for agriculture.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and III only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and II only
(D) I, II, and III

56. Identify the incorrect statement concerning Grey-Brown (Sierozem) soils in Rajasthan.
(A) They are primarily found in the Mewar region of southern Rajasthan.
(B) They occur extensively in the transitional

temperature
(B) Rapidly increasing the rate of surface topsoil evaporation
(C) Encouraging the unchecked rapid growth of unwanted field weeds
(D) Substantially increasing the overall bulk density of the soil profile

75. Consider the following statements regarding Saline soils in Rajasthan:
I. They contain a high concentration of soluble salts like chlorides and sulphates of sodium, calcium, and magnesium.
II. The provision of adequate drainage and flushing with good quality water helps in their reclamation.
III. They are typically and exclusively found in the deep ravines of the Chambal river.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and III only
(B) I and II only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II, and III

76. The "Rajiv Gandhi Jal Sanchay Yojana" (RGJSY) executed by the state government aims to improve soil health and agricultural productivity primarily through:
(A) Massive aerial spraying of synthetic liquid fertilizers across degraded farmlands
(B) Rainwater harvesting and watershed management
(C) The large-scale import and application of fertile topsoil from outside regions
(D) Completely banning all private agricultural activities across arid sandy zones

77. Which type of soil structure is physically the most vulnerable to wind erosion in the arid western districts of Rajasthan?
(A) Well-aggregated granular and crumb structure
(B) Angular and sub-angular blocky structure
(C) Single-grained sandy soil
(D) Columnar and prismatic soil structure

78. Under the broad 8-group genetic classification of soils adopted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the vast desert soils of western Rajasthan fall predominantly under the category of:
(A) Laterite soils
(B) Peaty and Marshy soils
(C) Forest and Mountain soils
(D) Arid and Desert soils

79. Why is deep summer ploughing strongly recommended by agricultural universities for the grey-brown and alluvial soil regions of Rajasthan?
(A) To expose soil-borne pests, pupae, and weed seeds to lethal intense solar heat
(B) To bring the saline water from the water table to the surface
(C) To completely pulverize the soil to a dust-like consistency for easier sowing
(D) To permanently destroy the soil's organic matter

80. Consider the following statements regarding soil erosion processes in Rajasthan:
I. Sheet erosion removes the top fertile layer of soil relatively uniformly across a slope.
II. Rill erosion is an advanced, more destructive stage of gully erosion.
III. Wind erosion is the dominant geomorphic process of soil degradation in the arid zones.
IV. Unregulated deforestation and overgrazing accelerate both wind and water erosion.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, III, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, and IV only

81. Which specific clay mineral dominates the composition of the black soils of Rajasthan, giving them their characteristic shrinking and swelling properties?
(A) Kaolinite clay mineral
(B) Montmorillonite
(C) Illite clay mineral
(D) Chlorite clay mineral

82. Select the correct sequence ranking the generalized soil types of Rajasthan by their relative water holding capacity, from highest to lowest.
(A) Desert Soil > Alluvial Soil > Black Soil
(B) Black Soil > Alluvial Soil > Desert Soil
(C) Alluvial Soil > Black Soil > Desert Soil
(D) Black Soil > Desert Soil > Alluvial Soil

83. Identify the correctly paired combination of a major region in Rajasthan and its dominant soil texture.
(A) Marwar Region - Clay loam texture
(B) Mewar Region - Sandy texture

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Reason (R): Arid climatic conditions, scarce vegetative cover, and high wind velocities prevail in western Rajasthan.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

11. Lithosols, characterized by shallow depth and stony texture, are mainly found in which geographical division of Rajasthan?
(A) Ghaggar River Plains
(B) Chambal Valley Ravines
(C) Luni River Basin
(D) Aravalli Hills

12. Under the comprehensive classification of soil taxonomy by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), 'Aridisols' are primarily associated with which climatic zone of Rajasthan?
(A) Humid southern regions
(B) Arid and semi-arid regions
(C) Sub-humid eastern plains
(D) Hyper-humid south-eastern plateau

13. According to the USDA soil taxonomy applied to Rajasthan, which traditional soil type is mapped predominantly as 'Vertisols'?
(A) Brown sandy soil
(B) Alluvial soil
(C) Black soil
(D) Red and yellow soil

14. Which naturally occurring mineral is subsidized by the Government of Rajasthan for extensive use as an amendment to reclaim alkaline (sodic) soils?
(A) Rock Phosphate
(B) Lignite
(C) Limestone
(D) Gypsum

15. Consider the following statements regarding the Soil Health Card Scheme in Rajasthan:
I. It provides information to farmers on the nutrient status of their soil along with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients.
II. It exclusively tests the soil for macronutrients like Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium, ignoring physical parameters like pH.
III. It aims to promote balanced and integrated use of fertilizers.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II, and III

16. Gully erosion (Avnalika Aparadan), leading to the formation of deep ravines or badland topography, is most severe in the basin of which river in Rajasthan?
(A) Mahi River
(B) Chambal
(C) Luni River
(D) Banas River

17. What is the primary agronomic objective of constructing contour bunds in the undulating terrains of Rajasthan?
(A) To increase the wind speed across the field
(B) To reduce surface water runoff and check soil erosion
(C) To permanently waterlog the soil for paddy cultivation
(D) To facilitate the deep mechanical harvesting of root crops

18. Among the following, which micronutrient deficiency is most frequently reported in the light-textured sandy soils of western Rajasthan?
(A) Zinc
(B) Molybdenum
(C) Cobalt
(D) Copper

19. Identify the correct statement regarding organic farming and its impact on the soils of Rajasthan.
(A) It permanently eliminates the requirement for systematic crop rotation practices.
(B) It leads to the rapid formation of a hard, impenetrable calcic pan in the subsoil.
(C) It enhances soil structure and moisture capacity by adding humus.
(D) It accelerates wind erosion by excessively loosening topsoil particles in summer.

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20. Consider the following statements regarding Grey-Brown (Sierozem) soils in Rajasthan:
I. They are predominantly found in the Luni basin and districts like Pali, Nagaur, and Jalore.
II. They contain moderate amounts of calcium and are generally fertile when irrigated.
III. They possess a high accumulation of organic

ANSWERS

1. (B) Desert (Sandy) soils
Desert soils, also known as sandy soils, cover the largest geographical area in Rajasthan, occupying over sixty percent of the state. These soils dominate the western and north-western regions, including the vast Thar Desert. They possess low water retention, high permeability, and low organic content, adapting to the hyper-arid climatic conditions prevalent across these expansive desert districts.

2. (B) 1959, Jodhpur
The Central Arid Zone Research Institute was established in 1959 in Jodhpur to address environmental challenges in arid regions. Functioning under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the institute conducts multidisciplinary research on soil stabilization, desertification control, sand dune fixation, and sustainable agriculture, playing a central role in restoring degraded land across arid ecosystems.

3. (C) Waterlogging and rising of the water table
The Sem problem in the command areas of the Indira Gandhi Canal Project refers to severe waterlogging caused by extensive canal seepage, over-irrigation, and poor drainage. As water accumulates in sub-surface layers, the water table rises close to the root zone, drawing underground salts to the surface through capillary action and rendering fertile agricultural land unproductive.

4. (D) Black soils found in the Hadoti region
Regur is the traditional name for black soils, which are extensively distributed across the Hadoti plateau in southeastern Rajasthan, including Kota, Bundi, Baran, and Jhalawar districts. Formed from weathered basaltic lava rocks, these clay-rich soils exhibit excellent moisture retention and self-ploughing characteristics, making them highly suitable for intensive commercial cropping under rainfed or irrigated conditions.

5. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Alluvial soils dominate the fertile Eastern Plains created by river systems, while Black soils characterize the volcanic South-Eastern Hadoti Plateau. Desert soils predominate in the arid tracts of Western Rajasthan, and Red Loam soils occur primarily across the hilly terrain of Southern Rajasthan, reflecting the distinct geographical distribution and geological origins of different soil types in the state.

6. (B) Suratgarh, Sri Ganganagar
The nationwide Soil Health Card Scheme was officially launched by the Prime Minister from Suratgarh in Sri Ganganagar district on February 19, 2015. The scheme aims to issue soil health cards to farmers every twelve years to provide nutrient status evaluations and tailored fertilizer recommendations, promoting balanced nutrient management and improving overall agricultural productivity across farms.

7. (D) Jaisalmer
Red and Yellow soils are formed under sub-humid to dry conditions through the weathering of crystalline metamorphic rocks in central and southern districts like Sawai Madhopur, Bhilwara, Ajmer, and Udaipur. Jaisalmer, situated in the extreme west, is almost exclusively covered by wind-blown sandy desert soils, completely lacking the pedogenic conditions required to form red and yellow soil profiles.

8. (A) They contain high clay content, giving them superior moisture retention capacity.
Medium black soils of the Hadoti region contain a high proportion of fine clay minerals, particularly montmorillonite. This fine texture gives them an exceptionally high cation-exchange and water-retention capacity, allowing them to absorb large quantities of water during rains and retain subsoil moisture for long durations, thereby reducing the overall frequency of irrigation needed during cropping seasons.

9. (C) Maize
Red loam soils are dominant in southern districts like Banswara, Dungarpur, and Udaipur due to the weathering of ancient crystalline rocks. These soils are well-drained, moderately fertile, and rich in iron oxide. Maize is traditionally the primary staple crop cultivated on these soils, benefiting from the adequate summer rainfall

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83. (C) Hadoti Region - Clayey texture
The Hadoti region in south-eastern Rajasthan, comprising Kota, Bundi, Baran, and Jhalawar districts, is characterized by fine-textured black clay soils derived from basaltic rocks. These soils have high clay content exceeding forty percent, giving them exceptional water retention. Marwar, Mewar, and Shekhawati regions are dominated by sandy loam, gravelly loam, and coarse sandy textures, respectively.

84. (D) Nitrogen
Nitrogen is classified as a primary macronutrient essential for plant growth and is required in large quantities, whereas iron, manganese, and copper are micronutrients needed in trace amounts. Standard soil testing laboratories in Rajasthan test for both macronutrients and micronutrients to assess overall soil fertility, making nitrogen distinct as the primary macronutrient listed among the options provided.

85. (C) It loosens topsoil, accelerating wind erosion and desertification.
Expanding intensive mechanized ploughing into marginal, fragile sandy soils breaks up fragile surface crusts and destroys natural vegetation anchoring the land. Unbound sand grains are easily dislodged and swept away by strong arid winds, leading to severe topsoil loss, dune migration, decreased land fertility, and accelerated desertification across vulnerable ecosystems in western Rajasthan.

86. (B) The process of soil formation and evolution
Pedogenesis is the scientific branch of pedology that examines the natural origin, formation, and structural development of soil profiles over geological time. It analyzes how climate, parent material, topography, biological organisms, and time interact through physical, chemical, and biological processes to transform rock minerals into distinct, organized soil horizons with specific properties and fertility characteristics.

87. (D) The soil will suffer from secondary salinity and waterlogging.
Introducing intensive canal irrigation into hyper-arid desert regions without underground drainage leads to excessive sub-surface water accumulation. As water tables rise near the surface, high ambient temperatures cause rapid evaporation of water. Dissolved mineral salts are drawn upwards by capillary action and deposited in root zones, triggering widespread secondary soil salinization and severe waterlogging across irrigated tracts.

88. (A) Leaving tilled land bare during windy summer months
Leaving tilled agricultural land completely bare during dry, windy summer months exposes loose topsoil to high velocity winds. This practice accelerates severe wind erosion, destroys surface soil structure, and depletes organic matter. In contrast, practices like constructing Khadins, mixed cropping with legumes, and adding farmyard manure conserve topsoil moisture and protect land against degradation in drylands.

89. (C) Perpendicular to the prevailing wind direction
Shelterbelts are linear plantings of multi-row trees and shrubs designed to reduce wind velocity across agricultural lands. To maximize soil conservation in western Rajasthan, shelterbelts must be oriented perpendicular to the dominant direction of seasonal winds. This orientation effectively interrupts wind currents, reduces topsoil detachment, traps drifting sand, and lowers crop evapotranspiration losses across adjacent fields.

90. (A) Eastern and south-eastern alluvial plains
Under the Land Capability Classification system, Class I and Class II lands possess minimal physical limitations, gentle slopes, deep fertile soil profiles, and high agricultural potential. In Rajasthan, such high-capability lands are situated predominantly across the eastern and south-eastern alluvial plains, where fertile river deposits and favorable moisture conditions support intensive multi-crop agricultural production with minimal soil degradation risks.

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19. (C) It enhances soil structure and moisture capacity by adding humus.
Organic farming relies on natural inputs such as compost, green manure, and farmyard manure, which add organic matter to the soil. As this organic material decomposes, it forms humus, which binds loose soil particles into stable aggregates, improves porosity, enhances microbial activity, and increases soil water-holding capacity, making agricultural systems more resilient in dry climates.

20. (B) I, II, and IV only
Grey-Brown or Sierozem soils are widely distributed in the Luni basin and adjoining districts including Pali, Nagaur, and Jalore. They contain moderate calcium carbonate, low organic matter, and good native fertility when irrigated, supporting drought-tolerant crops. Statement III is incorrect because these soils are characteristically poor in organic content and humus due to high temperatures and rapid oxidation.

21. (C) Jaipur
Under the USDA soil taxonomy classification, Alfisols represent mature, well-developed soils featuring a subsurface clay accumulation horizon with moderate to high base saturation. In Rajasthan, Alfisols are predominantly mapped across the sub-humid eastern alluvial plains and central districts such as Jaipur, Alwar, Bharatpur, and Tonk, where higher rainfall supports clay leaching and horizon differentiation within soil profiles.

22. (B) Overgrazing, deforestation, and wind erosion
Land degradation and desertification in western Rajasthan are primarily driven by heavy livestock overgrazing, removal of natural vegetation cover, and severe wind erosion. The removal of protective plant canopy exposes fragile sandy topsoil to high velocity winds, causing sand dune movement, loss of organic matter, and deterioration of soil structure across the hyper-arid ecosystem.

23. (D) Brown alluvial soil with saline patches
The Ghaggar plains of Hanumangarh and Sri Ganganagar are characterized by brown alluvial soils formed by historical river deposits. These soils are deep, loamy to silty in texture, and highly fertile under canal irrigation. However, due to intensive irrigation and arid climatic conditions, sub-surface salt accumulation frequently creates localized saline and sodic soil patches across the basin.

24. (A) Barmer
Kota, Baran, and Jhalawar districts are located in the Hadoti region of south-eastern Rajasthan, which is characterized by deep to medium black clay soils of volcanic origin. Barmer, in contrast, lies in western Rajasthan and is dominated by desert sandy soils and saline flats, making it distinct and completely outside the black soil region of the state.

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25. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
Aridisols characterize arid western districts like Bikaner, whereas Inceptisols are found in semi-arid southern areas like Udaipur. Alfisols correspond to eastern alluvial districts such as Bharatpur, and Vertisols dominate the black soil plateau of south-eastern districts like Baran. This mapping aligns USDA soil orders with their corresponding representative geographical districts across the varied climatic zones of Rajasthan.

26. (A) New alluvial soils deposited by periodic floods
In the floodplains of eastern Rajasthan, Khadar refers to fine, newly deposited alluvial soil brought down by active river streams during seasonal flood events. These soils are refreshed annually with fresh silt, organic matter, and mineral nutrients, making them light-textured, highly permeable, exceptionally fertile, and well-suited for intensive agricultural cropping without requiring heavy chemical fertilization.

27. (D) Planting shelterbelts and windbreaks
Sand dune stabilization in arid tracts is effectively achieved by establishing multi-row shelterbelts and windbreaks consisting of drought-resistant trees, shrubs, and grasses planted perpendicular to dominant winds. These vegetative barriers disrupt wind velocity near the soil surface, anchor loose sand particles with deep root networks, reduce evaporation rates, and prevent wind-driven desertification from encroaching onto nearby cultivated lands.

28. (B) Capillary action brings subsoil salts to the surface due to high evaporation.
In the lower Luni basin, high temperatures and extremely low rainfall induce intense surface

raindrops, suppresses weed growth, and combats land degradation across fragile arid and semi-arid watersheds.

65. (A) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
Khadin denotes a traditional water harvesting and runoff farming system, while Sem describes waterlogging and rising water tables along canals. Chappi or Papdi refers to hard surface crusting that impedes crop seedling emergence, and Kankar describes calcium carbonate subsoil nodules. Matching these indigenous Rajasthani agricultural terms with their defined physical concepts establishes the correct technical pairs.

66. (A) Drip systems
Drip irrigation delivers water directly to plant root zones at controlled rates, making it the most efficient method for highly permeable sandy loam soils in western Rajasthan. By preventing deep percolation losses and surface runoff, drip systems minimize soil erosion, conserve scarce water resources, prevent salt accumulation in topsoil, and eliminate waterlogging risks associated with traditional flood irrigation methods.

67. (C) Applying organic farmyard manure
Secondary salinization in canal command areas is driven by seepage from unlined canals, excessive flood irrigation, and inadequate drainage, which cause shallow water tables and salt accumulation. Applying organic farmyard manure does not cause salinization; instead, it improves soil structure, enhances biological activity, increases water retention, and assists in mitigating salt damage in agricultural soils.

68. (D) High soil alkalinity (sodic soil)
Gypsum is specifically applied to reclaim sodic or highly alkaline soils characterized by elevated exchangeable sodium levels and high pH. The calcium supplied by gypsum displaces harmful sodium ions adsorbed on soil clay particles, which are then washed out with irrigation water. This chemical reaction restores soil structure, improves drainage, and creates favorable conditions for normal crop root growth.

69. (C) Banas
Bhuri or Brown sandy soils occur prominently across the central eastern plains within the catchment area of the Banas River and its tributaries, covering districts like Tonk, Sawai Madhopur, Bhilwara, and Ajmer. These soils are sandy loam to loamy in texture, moderately rich in nutrients, and well-drained, supporting extensive cultivation of food grains and oilseeds under irrigation.

70. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Red and yellow soils in central and southern Rajasthan have experienced long-term weathering and leaching under sub-humid conditions. Consequently, they are naturally deficient in organic humus, nitrogen, and available phosphorus. To overcome these inherent nutritional limitations and sustain high crop yields, these soils require regular, balanced applications of organic manures and chemical fertilizers, validating the given reasoning.

71. (D) To report soil nutrient status and recommend fertilizer doses
The Soil Health Card Scheme operates at the individual farmer level to provide a detailed evaluation of twelve essential soil parameters. The main operational objective of issuing these cards is to give farmers clear scientific guidance on existing nutrient deficiencies and prescribe site-specific fertilizer dosage recommendations, thereby optimizing input costs, improving soil health, and increasing crop yields sustainably.

72. (A) They are naturally very rich in nitrogen and organic matter.
Black soils of the Hadoti plateau are derived from volcanic basalt weathering and possess high clay content, strong water retention, and self-ploughing capabilities due to summer cracking. However, like most tropical soils in India, they are naturally deficient in nitrogen, phosphorus, and organic matter, making the statement asserting high natural nitrogen and organic content factually incorrect.

73. (C) Nagaur
Nagaur district contains extensive tracts of naturally occurring saline soils due to the presence of endorheic internal drainage basins, playa lakes like Sambhar and Deedwana, and high groundwater salinity. Arid climatic conditions and high evaporation rates draw dissolved salts to the upper soil layers through capillary action, resulting in thick surface salt crusts and naturally saline land patches.

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37. (C) Chemical-free organic farming and indigenous compost
The Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana is a flagship central scheme that promotes chemical-free organic farming practices through cluster-based approaches. By encouraging the adoption of green manure, bio-fertilizers, and traditional composting methods, the program improves long-term soil health, enhances biological fertility, restores soil organic carbon, and reduces environmental degradation across agricultural lands in dryland zones of Rajasthan.

38. (B) Shifting cultivation
Shifting cultivation involves clearing vegetative canopy, burning forest biomass, and cultivating crops until soil fertility drops, before abandoning the plot. This practice leads to severe soil erosion, loss of organic matter, and habitat destruction. Consequently, it is recognized as a cause of land degradation rather than a soil conservation technique, unlike shelterbelts, contour cropping, and stubble mulching.

39. (D) Loamy soil
Loamy soil consists of an approximately balanced mixture of sand, silt, and clay particles. In the eastern plains of Rajasthan, including Tonk district, loamy soils dominate river basins. They possess good aeration, high nutrient-holding capacity, and favorable moisture retention, making them exceptionally fertile and suitable for growing diverse field crops under rainfed and irrigated farming systems.

40. (A) I, II, and III only
Alluvial soils in eastern Rajasthan are deposited by river systems like the Banas and Banganga. They contain high potash levels but lack phosphorus and humus, while offering better moisture retention than desert sand. Statement IV is incorrect because desert sandy soils, not alluvial soils, dominate the Thar Desert, leaving statements I, II, and III as the only accurate statements.

41. (C) Department of Agriculture
The network of static and mobile soil testing laboratories in Rajasthan functions directly under the administrative management of the Department of Agriculture. These laboratories process soil samples collected from farmers' fields to evaluate macro and micro nutrient contents, soil pH, and electrical conductivity, providing personalized diagnostic reports and fertilizer recommendations to optimize crop production across the state.

42. (A) Downward calcium leaching followed by precipitation from evaporation
In arid and semi-arid environments of Rajasthan, seasonal rainfall dissolves surface calcium minerals and leaches them downwards into the subsoil. During subsequent dry periods, intense evaporation draws moisture upward, causing calcium carbonate to precipitate and accumulate at specific depths. Over time, this pedogenic process forms a cemented, dense subsoil layer known as a hard kankar pan.

43. (D) Waterlogging and salinization
Sub-surface drainage systems utilize perforated underground pipes to intercept and evacuate excess irrigation water and seepage from canal networks in the Indira Gandhi Canal command area. By lowering the shallow water table and preventing capillary rise of dissolved salts to the root zone, these engineered drainage installations effectively mitigate the twin degradation issues of soil waterlogging and secondary salinization.

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44. (B) Continuous monocropping
Continuous monocropping involves growing the same crop repeatedly on the same land over multiple seasons. This practice depletes specific soil nutrients, degrades physical soil structure, disrupts microbial biodiversity, and increases vulnerability to persistent soil-borne pests and diseases. In contrast, practices like leguminous crop rotation, green manuring, and organic farmyard manure applications enhance soil fertility and long-term land productivity.

45. (A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
Mustard thrives in the fertile alluvial soils of eastern plains, whereas cotton grows best in the moisture-retentive black soils of south-eastern districts. Bajra is adapted to the loose desert sandy soils of western Rajasthan, and maize is traditionally cultivated on the well-drained red loam soils of southern hilly districts, reflecting optimal ecological matches between soil properties and crop requirements.

46. (D) Dholpur
Dholpur district exhibits the highest severity and largest geographical coverage of gully erosion in Rajasthan. Situated along the Chambal river

evaporation. Groundwater containing dissolved mineral salts rises through soil micro-pores via capillary action. As water evaporates at the soil surface, soluble salts accumulate as a thick white crust, causing widespread secondary soil salinization and rendering surrounding agricultural fields hostile to normal crop growth.

29. (C) Zinc Sulphate
Zinc deficiency is widespread in the light-textured sandy and alkaline soils of Rajasthan, impairing plant growth and enzyme activation. To remedy this micro-nutritional imbalance, state government agricultural schemes provide subsidized zinc sulphate to farmers. Applying zinc sulphate directly to affected soils enhances crop chlorophyl synthesis, improves stress resistance, and substantially boosts yields of staple grains like wheat and maize.

30. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
South-eastern Rajasthan, comprising the Hadoti region, is dominated by medium to deep black soils derived from basaltic lava flows. These soils are naturally rich in calcium, iron, and potassium, and possess high water retention capacity due to elevated clay content. These specific physical and chemical soil attributes provide ideal agronomic conditions, directly supporting high productivity for moisture-demanding cash crops like soybean and cotton.

31. (A) It assesses land suitability for specific uses to prevent soil degradation.
Land Capability Classification evaluates soil characteristics, slope, erosion hazards, and climatic limitations to group lands into standardized capability classes. In Rajasthan, this scientific classification assists planners and farmers in determining the most appropriate sustainable land use—such as intensive cropping, pasture development, or forestry—thereby preventing soil degradation, combating desertification, and promoting long-term agricultural stability across varied landscapes.

32. (A) 2, 4, 1, 3
Water erosion progresses sequentially starting with splash erosion, where raindrops impact bare soil and dislodge individual particles. Next, sheet erosion removes thin, uniform topsoil layers across slopes. As runoff concentrates, it carves narrow channels during rill erosion. Eventually, uncorrected rills widen and deepen into severe gully erosion, forming deep ravines that cause severe land degradation across affected watersheds.

33. (B) National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP)
The National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning works in close collaboration with state departments to conduct comprehensive soil mapping, land resource evaluation, and soil degradation monitoring. Utilizing satellite remote sensing, field sampling, and geographic information systems, the institution prepares detailed digital soil inventories that guide state-level agricultural planning and targeted soil conservation strategies across Rajasthan.

34. (A) Red Loam Soil - Maize
Red loam soils are dominant in the southern districts of Rajasthan, such as Banswara, Dungarpur, and Udaipur. Derived from crystalline metamorphic rocks, these soils are well-drained, porous, and iron-rich, providing optimum physical conditions for rainfed maize cultivation. Other options incorrectly pair soil categories with crops that do not represent their primary, traditional ecological adaptions in the state.

35. (A) I and II only
Black soils in Rajasthan originate from the weathering of basaltic rocks and are characteristically deficient in nitrogen, phosphorus, and organic matter, while being rich in calcium and potash. They occur predominantly in the south-eastern Hadoti region, not in the Shekhawati region of north-western Rajasthan, making statement III incorrect and leaving statements I and II as the valid assertions.

36. (D) Saline and alkaline soil patches
In local Rajasthani terminology, terms like Kallar, Reh, and Usar denote degraded lands affected by excessive salinity or alkalinity. These soils accumulate harmful soluble sodium salts or alkaline carbonates on the surface, creating crusts that inhibit root water absorption and seed germination. Such unproductive soils occur in arid depressions, canal command areas, and areas suffering from improper drainage.

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alkaline, leaving statements I and II as the valid factual statements.

56. (A) They are primarily found in the Mewar region of southern Rajasthan.
Grey-Brown or Sierozem soils are characteristic of semi-arid transitional zones, prominently found across the Luni river basin and districts like Nagaur, Pali, Jalore, and Sikar. They feature subsoil calcic kankar horizons and respond well to irrigation. The assertion that they are primarily found in the southern Mewar region is incorrect, as Mewar is dominated by red loams and medium red-black soils.

57. (C) To fix atmospheric nitrogen symbiotically and improve fertility
Cultivating leguminous crops like moong or moth bean in crop rotations improves soil fertility through symbiotic nitrogen fixation. Rhizobium bacteria living in legume root nodules convert atmospheric nitrogen into plant-available nitrates. Incorporating these crops enriches subsoil nitrogen levels, improves soil structure, reduces reliance on synthetic fertilizers, and enhances overall crop productivity in nutrient-poor sandy soils.

58. (A) It cuts wind velocity at the soil surface and binds soil particles.
Retaining crop stubbles in agricultural fields after harvest provides a physical barrier that reduces wind velocity at the ground surface. Stubble root systems anchor topsoil particles, preventing wind detachment and transport during dry summer months. This practice conserves fine organic topsoil, traps moisture, and protects fragile dryland fields from severe wind-induced soil degradation across western Rajasthan.

59. (D) To deliver on-site soil analysis and rapid advisory to farmers in remote areas
Mobile Soil Testing Vans were deployed by the Rajasthan government to bring soil diagnostic facilities directly to farmers' doorsteps in remote villages. Equipped with testing equipment, these mobile units analyze soil samples for pH, salinity, and nutrient levels, delivering rapid diagnostic reports and tailored fertilizer advice to optimize farm inputs and protect soil health across isolated agrarian tracts.

60. (B) I, II, and IV only
The Central Arid Zone Research Institute was established in 1959 at Jodhpur to conduct research on dryland agriculture, desertification, sand dune stabilization, and natural resource management. Statement III is incorrect because CAZRI focuses on hyper-arid and semi-arid ecosystems rather than hyper-humid tropical agriculture, leaving statements I, II, and IV as the correct statements.

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61. (C) Lithosols
Lithosols are skeletal, shallow soils comprised mainly of partially weathered rock fragments and coarse gravel. At the intersection zones of Aravalli foothills, active sheet erosion and wind action carry away lighter silt and clay particles. This continuous removal leaves behind thin, coarse lithosolic soils that cover rocky slopes, restricting deep-rooted crop cultivation and encouraging natural scrub vegetation.

62. (A) 2, 4, 1, 3
Land Capability Classification ranks land suitability from Class I with minimal limitations down to Class VIII with extreme restrictions. Class I is ideal for farming, followed sequentially by Class II and Class III. Class VIII is restricted to wildlife or watershed conservation, making the correct sequence from highest to lowest suitability Class I, Class II, Class III, and Class VIII.

63. (A) Saline soils
Green manuring with leguminous crops like Dhaincha is an effective biological practice for reclaiming saline and sodic soils. When ploughed back into the soil, Dhaincha generates organic acids during decomposition. These organic acids lower soil pH, solubilize native calcium carbonate, promote sodium displacement on clay complexes, and improve subsoil permeability, thereby speeding up the restoration of salt-affected farmlands.

64. (B) Grass cultivation and pasture development to bind soil and check erosion
Agrostology refers to the scientific study and cultivation of grasses. In soil conservation efforts across degraded lands of Rajasthan, agrostology involves planting deep-rooted perennial grasses like Dhaman, Sevan, and Karad to develop permanent pastures. Grass cover anchors loose topsoil, reduces surface runoff velocity, intercepts

basin, the region experiences intense runoff that carves deep channels into soft alluvial deposits. This continuous erosion process forms extensive ravine topographies, destroying valuable farmland and causing severe land degradation across local agricultural watersheds.

47. (A) Soil Microbial DNA Profiling
The official Soil Health Card Scheme standardizes the testing of twelve parameters: primary nutrients (N, P, K), secondary nutrients (S), micronutrients (Zn, Fe, Cu, Mn, B), and physical-chemical indicators (pH, Electrical Conductivity, Organic Carbon). Advanced biological techniques like microbial DNA profiling are not part of routine soil testing protocols carried out under this agricultural scheme.

48. (B) Diffusion and hydration of ferric oxides in the soil
The reddish and yellow coloration in red-yellow soils of Sawai Madhopur and Bhilwara arises from the chemical weathering of iron-rich crystalline rocks. Iron compounds release ferric oxides that disperse evenly through soil profiles. When fully oxidized, these ferric oxides impart a distinct red color, which turns yellow upon hydration, reflecting internal moisture levels and aeration status within subsoil layers.

49. (B) Adding farmyard manure and incorporating crop residue
Sandy soils in Bikaner are characterized by high porosity, poor moisture retention, and low native organic carbon. Regularly incorporating well-decomposed farmyard manure and leaving crop residues in the field adds stable organic matter. As this material decomposes into humus, it improves soil aggregation, enhances nutrient exchange capacity, and increases water retention, gradually restoring long-term soil productivity.

50. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Alluvial soils of eastern Rajasthan are exceptionally productive and support intensive agricultural systems due to their favorable physical and chemical properties. They feature a balanced loamy texture, neutral to slightly alkaline pH, freedom from toxic salts, and periodic replenishment of mineral-rich sediments carried by river floodwaters, which directly accounts for their high fertility and agricultural capacity.

51. (D) More than 60%
Scientific assessments by the Space Applications Centre and CAZRI indicate that over sixty percent of Rajasthan's total geographical area suffers from land degradation and desertification. Arid climate, wind erosion, waterlogging, salinization, overgrazing, and vegetation loss drive this severe degradation, making land conservation a critical priority for ecological stability and sustainable agricultural management across the state.

52. (A) Jaisalmer → Jodhpur → Jaipur → Bharatpur
Moving from west to east across Rajasthan demonstrates a clear geographic transition in soil types corresponding to increasing rainfall. Starting in extreme western Jaisalmer with arid sand dunes, the sequence passes through semi-arid Jodhpur, transitions into central Jaipur's loamy terrain, and culminates in eastern floodplains at Bharatpur, where deep alluvial soils dominate river basins.

53. (C) Recent sandy desert soils lacking profile development
In USDA soil taxonomy, Entisols are defined as recent soils that display little to no mineral horizon development due to young age or active depositional processes. In Rajasthan, Entisols correspond to shifting sandy desert soils and sand dunes of the Thar region, where constant wind movement and dry conditions prevent the formation of distinct subsurface soil horizons.

54. (B) Building water harvesting structures to retain moisture and check soil erosion
The Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan enhances soil health through comprehensive watershed management. By constructing check dams, contour trenches, and percolation tanks across micro-watersheds, the program intercepts surface water runoff, reduces soil erosion, increases subsoil water infiltration, and preserves topsoil moisture, creating stable conditions for sustainable rainfed agriculture and eco-restoration across rural communities.

55. (C) I and II only
Red loam soils occur extensively in southern districts such as Dungarpur and Banswara, formed through the weathering of ancient crystalline and metamorphic rocks. These soils are slightly acidic to neutral and well-drained, making them suitable for agriculture. Statement III is incorrect because they are not highly

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74. (A) Retaining soil moisture and controlling temperature
Mulching involves covering the soil surface with crop residues, organic litter, or plastic sheeting. In dryland farming areas of Rajasthan, this protective layer reduces evaporation losses, moderates extreme soil surface temperatures, suppresses weed growth, and protects topsoil from wind erosion. By conserving critical subsoil moisture, mulching significantly improves crop survival and yields during dry spells.

75. (B) I and II only
Saline soils contain high concentrations of soluble chloride and sulphate salts of sodium, calcium, and magnesium, which can be reclaimed through leaching with good quality water and effective drainage. Statement III is incorrect because saline soils are not exclusively confined to Chambal ravines but occur widely across desert basins and salt-affected depressions, leaving statements I and II correct.

76. (B) Rainwater harvesting and watershed management
The Rajiv Gandhi Jal Sanchay Yojana focuses on enhancing soil moisture and water availability through integrated watershed management. By constructing rainwater harvesting structures, renovating traditional water bodies, and executing continuous contour trenching, the scheme minimizes surface runoff, controls water-driven topsoil erosion, recharges shallow aquifers, and improves overall soil health and agricultural productivity across rural watersheds.

77. (C) Single-grained sandy soil
Single-grained sandy soil structure lacks organic binding agents and structural aggregates, leaving individual sand grains completely unattached. In western Rajasthan's arid districts, this loose physical structure renders topsoil extremely vulnerable to wind detachment and transport. High summer wind velocities easily lift these single sandy particles, driving widespread soil erosion, sand dune shifting, and land degradation across unprotected fields.

78. (D) Arid and Desert soils
Under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research genetic soil classification system, the vast sandy soils of western Rajasthan are classified under Arid and Desert soils. These soils cover over sixty percent of the state, characterized by low clay content, high quartz sand, low organic matter, variable alkaline pH, and elevated levels of soluble salts developed under hyper-arid conditions.

79. (A) To expose soil-borne pests, pupae, and weed seeds to lethal intense solar heat
Deep summer ploughing involves tilling fields before the onset of monsoons, exposing deep soil layers to intense summer sunlight. High surface temperatures kill soil-borne pathogens, insect pupae, harmful nematodes, and weed seeds embedded in the topsoil. This agronomic practice improves soil aeration, enhances rainwater infiltration during monsoons, and reduces pest incidence for subsequent cropping seasons without chemical intervention.

80. (B) I, III, and IV only
Sheet erosion removes thin surface soil layers uniformly, wind erosion dominates arid zone land degradation, and overgrazing accelerates soil loss. Statement II is incorrect because rill erosion is an intermediate stage that precedes, rather than follows, advanced gully erosion. Consequently, statements I, III, and IV accurately describe soil erosion mechanisms and environmental drivers operating within Rajasthan.

81. (B) Montmorillonite
The black soils of south-eastern Rajasthan are dominated by the expandable clay mineral montmorillonite, inherited from weathered basaltic lava rocks. Montmorillonite features a mineral structure that absorbs large quantities of water between layer lattices, causing pronounced swelling when wet. Upon drying, the soil shrinks significantly, producing wide vertical cracks that characterize the self-ploughing behavior of these clay soils.

82. (B) Black Soil > Alluvial Soil > Desert Soil
Water holding capacity is determined primarily by soil texture and organic matter content. Black soil possesses the highest water retention due to its abundant montmorillonite clay content. Alluvial soil holds a moderate amount of moisture owing to its balanced loam and silt texture. Desert soil has the lowest retention capacity due to coarse sand particles and high macro-porosity.

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and favourable soil structure characteristic of the region.

10. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Western Rajasthan is characterized by hyper-arid climatic conditions, sparse vegetation cover, loose sandy topsoil, and high seasonal wind velocities. These environmental factors directly accelerate wind erosion, making it the primary mechanism of land degradation in Marwar. The arid environment and high winds physically dislodge and transport unprotected soil particles, fully explaining the dominance of wind erosion in the region.

11. (D) Aravalli Hills
Lithosols are shallow, skeletal, and stony soils that lack well-developed profile horizons due to active mechanical weathering and steep terrain. In Rajasthan, these thin soils are predominantly located along the rugged slopes and high elevation ridges of the Aravalli Hills, where continuous surface runoff and water erosion prevent the accumulation and pedogenic development of fine topsoil layers.

12. (B) Arid and semi-arid regions
In the USDA soil taxonomy system, Aridisols are soils formed under arid and semi-arid moisture regimes where soil water is unavailable to plants for extended periods. In Rajasthan, Aridisols cover extensive areas in the western and north-western regions, characterized by low organic content, accumulation of soluble salts, and weak soil profile development under low rainfall conditions.

13. (C) Black soil
Vertisols are clay-rich soils defined by high montmorillonite content, which causes pronounced shrinking during dry periods and swelling when wet. In Rajasthan's USDA soil classification, Vertisols correspond to the traditional deep and medium black soils found in the south-eastern Hadoti plateau, which develop deep vertical cracks that facilitate natural self-mulching and deep aeration during summer months.

14. (D) Gypsum
Gypsum, chemically known as hydrated calcium sulfate, is extensively distributed in Rajasthan and subsidized by the government for soil reclamation. When applied to alkaline or sodic soils, the calcium ions in gypsum replace exchangeable sodium on soil clay particles, improving soil structure, increasing water infiltration, lowering soil pH, and converting unproductive sodic land into arable agricultural fields.

15. (B) I and III only
The Soil Health Card Scheme evaluates twelve essential parameters, including primary macronutrients, secondary nutrients, micronutrients, and physical parameters like electrical conductivity and pH. It aims to inform farmers about soil health and promote balanced nutrient application. The claim that it ignores physical parameters like pH is incorrect, making statements I and III the only correct assertions under the scheme.

16. (B) Chambal
Gully erosion is most severe along the Chambal River and its tributaries, creating extensive ravine landscapes known as badland topography. Deep, fast-flowing surface runoff cuts through soft alluvial soils, carving deep channels and drainage gullies. This process strips away arable topsoil and renders vast swathes of land unsuitable for agriculture across Kota, Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, and Dholpur.

17. (B) To reduce surface water runoff and check soil erosion
Contour bunding involves constructing mechanical earthen or stone embankments along equal elevation lines across undulating and sloping terrain. This agronomic practice slows down the velocity of surface runoff during heavy rainfall, encourages water infiltration into subsoil layers, and traps eroding soil particles, effectively conserving both topsoil and soil moisture in rainfed agricultural regions across Rajasthan.

18. (A) Zinc
Zinc deficiency is the most widespread micronutrient issue reported in the coarse-textured, sandy soils of western Rajasthan. High soil alkalinity, low organic matter, and excessive sand content restrict zinc availability to plant roots. Correcting this deficiency through zinc sulphate application significantly improves crop enzymatic functions, photosynthesis, and yields for dryland crops like mustard and pearl millet.

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CHAPTER 17
Rabi and Kharif Crops of Rajasthan

1. The Kharif crops in Rajasthan are typically sown during which of the following periods?
(A) June to July
(B) October to November
(C) March to April
(D) January to February

2. Which of the following best defines the Zaid cropping season in Rajasthan?
(A) The season reliant purely on the southwest monsoon for dryland farming.
(B) The main winter cropping season dependent on heavy irrigation and fertilizers.
(C) A short season between Rabi and Kharif during summer, primarily for growing vegetables, melons, and fodder.
(D) A long-duration season exclusive to pulse cultivation in arid regions.

3. Which of the following statements about wheat cultivation in Rajasthan is correct?
(A) It is a major Rabi crop cultivated extensively in the irrigated plains of northern and eastern Rajasthan.
(B) It is primarily grown in the arid western districts without any irrigation.
(C) It is a Kharif crop that requires heavy rainfall during its vegetative phase.
(D) It requires acidic soils and high humidity throughout its lifecycle.

4. Why is barley often preferred over wheat by farmers in certain regions of Rajasthan?
(A) Barley commands a significantly higher Minimum Support Price (MSP) than wheat.
(B) Barley requires more water but has a much shorter growing cycle.
(C) Barley is resistant to all known agricultural pests in Rajasthan.
(D) Barley is more tolerant to saline soils and requires less irrigation than wheat.

5. Consider the following statements regarding wheat cultivation in Rajasthan:
I. It is primarily a Rabi crop requiring cool temperatures during the vegetative growth phase.
II. The districts of Sriganganagar and Hanumangarh are among its top producers.
III. Winter rainfall known as 'Mawath' is highly detrimental to its growth.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

6. Gram (Chickpea) is predominantly cultivated in Rajasthan during which season?
(A) Zaid
(B) Kharif
(C) Rabi
(D) Pre-Monsoon

7. Which of the following is NOT categorized as a Rabi pulse crop in Rajasthan?
(A) Gram (Chana / Chickpea)
(B) Lentil (Masoor / Red lentil)
(C) Field peas (Matar)
(D) Urad (Black gram)

8. What is the primary reason Rajasthan holds the top rank in mustard production in India?
(A) Cool winter climate and suitable soils in eastern and northern districts.
(B) Receiving high average annual precipitation and atmospheric humidity ideal for cultivation.
(C) Widespread availability of fertile black cotton soil profiles throughout the central plains.
(D) Exclusive government monopoly over high-yielding genetically modified seed varieties.

9. The Directorate of Rapeseed-Mustard Research (DRMR) in Rajasthan is located in which district?
(A) Alwar
(B) Bharatpur
(C) Sriganganagar
(D) Jaipur

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(B) The total quantitative agricultural crop yield produced per net hectare of farm land.
(C) The percentage of land allocated to commercial cash crops versus food grain crops.
(D) The mathematical ratio of gross cropped area to net sown area, multiplied by 100.

72. In Rajasthan, the implementation of drip and sprinkler irrigation systems is heavily subsidized under which major scheme to improve water use efficiency?
(A) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)
(B) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
(C) Soil Health Card Scheme (SHCS India)
(D) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)

73. Which of the following agricultural commodities is NOT typically procured under the Price Support Scheme (PSS) by RAJFED in Rajasthan?
(A) Mustard
(B) Sugarcane
(C) Gram
(D) Garlic

74. Identify the odd one out from the following list based on their botanical classification and typical use:
(A) Moong
(B) Guar
(C) Moth
(D) Urad

75. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: (Agricultural Scheme/Portal)
P. e-NAM
Q. PMFBY
R. Soil Health Card
S. Raj Kisan Sathi Portal
List II: (Core Objective)
1. Crop insurance against natural calamities
2. Single window digital platform for farmers in Rajasthan
3. Integration of agricultural mandis for better price discovery
4. Assessment of nutrient status and fertilizer recommendation
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

76. During severe winter months, crops like Mustard and Gram in Rajasthan are often vulnerable to frost damage. Which of the following is a recommended agronomic practice to mitigate this?
(A) Applying a heavy top-dressing dose of nitrogenous fertilizer immediately prior to frost occurrence.
(B) Withholding irrigation completely during cold waves to keep the surface soil thoroughly dry.
(C) Spraying a dilute 0.1% Sulphuric acid solution or providing light crop field irrigation.
(D) Spraying concentrated systemic weedicides evenly across the entire standing crop canopy.

77. Which of the following departments/institutions is directly responsible for agricultural extension services and running Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) across Rajasthan?
(A) Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board (RSPCB)
(B) Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation (RSRTC)
(C) State Land Revenue Department and Disaster Management
(D) State Agriculture Universities (SAUs) and ICAR

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78. What is the approximate contribution of the Agriculture and Allied Sector to the Gross State Value Added (GSVA) of Rajasthan at constant prices (as per recent economic trends)?
(A) Around 5-10%
(B) Around 12-15%
(C) Around 28-30%
(D) Around 55-60%

79. Which of the following crops requires the highest amount of nitrogenous fertilizer per hectare for optimal yield in Rajasthan?
(A) Gram
(B) Wheat
(C) Moong
(D) Moth

80. Consider the following statements regarding the state's agriculture schemes:
I. The 'Rajasthan Mukhyamantri Krishak Sathi Yojana' provides financial assistance to farmers in case of accidental death or disability during agricultural operations.
II. Solar water pumps are highly promoted in

leading districts for American cotton.
III. It is grown exclusively as a Rabi crop in the state.
IV. It is vulnerable to the Pink Bollworm pest.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and IV only
(B) I, III and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

21. Arrange the following major agricultural states in generally descending order of their total Bajra production:
1. Uttar Pradesh
2. Rajasthan
3. Haryana
4. Maharashtra
Which of the following is the correct sequence?
(A) 2, 1, 3, 4
(B) 1, 2, 4, 3
(C) 2, 4, 1, 3
(D) 1, 3, 2, 4

22. Which place in Rajasthan is often referred to as the "Rajkot of Rajasthan" due to its high groundnut production?
(A) Suratgarh
(B) Phalodi
(C) Lunkaransar
(D) Pokhran

23. Groundnut cultivation in Rajasthan is predominantly carried out during which season?
(A) Rabi
(B) Zaid
(C) Throughout the year
(D) Kharif

24. Which of the following districts is the leading producer of Moong (Green Gram) in Rajasthan?
(A) Nagaur
(B) Udaipur
(C) Jhalawar
(D) Baran

25. Consider the following statements regarding Guar (Cluster bean) cultivation:
I. Rajasthan accounts for over 70% of India's total guar production.
II. It is a leguminous crop that helps in improving soil fertility.
III. Guar gum is heavily used in the shale gas fracking industry worldwide.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

26. Bikaner is particularly famous for the cultivation of which drought-resistant pulse crop used widely in the popular "Bhujia" industry?
(A) Urad
(B) Moth bean
(C) Arhar
(D) Masoor

27. Urad (Black Gram) is primarily cultivated in which of the following regions of Rajasthan?
(A) South-Eastern regions (Bundi, Tonk, Kota)
(B) Northern Ghaggar Plains (Hanumangarh, Sriganganagar)
(C) Western Arid Plains (Jaisalmer, Barmer)
(D) Luni Basin (Jalore, Sirohi)

28. Which of the following is NOT an advantage of cultivating pulses like Moong and Moth in Rajasthan?
(A) They require significantly less irrigation water compared to cereal crops.
(B) They naturally fix atmospheric nitrogen to enhance overall soil fertility.
(C) They require long maturation periods with year-round field occupation.
(D) They serve as effective ground cover crops to prevent wind soil erosion.

29. The term 'Cropping Pattern' geographically refers to:
(A) The scheduled timing and seasonal frequency of crop irrigation applications.
(B) The economic balance ratio between agricultural state exports and imports.
(C) The government system for distributing subsidized certified farm seeds.
(D) The proportion of area under various crops at a given point of time.

30. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): The cropping pattern in the northwestern districts of Rajasthan has shifted significantly from coarse grains to cash crops.
Reason (R): The introduction and expansion of the Indira Gandhi Canal Network have provided assured irrigation in this region.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true

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90. Which statutory body is responsible for the regulation of agricultural produce markets (Mandis) to ensure fair prices to farmers in Rajasthan?

(A) Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO)

(B) Rajasthan State Agricultural Marketing Board (RSAMB)

(C) Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation (RCDF)

(D) Rajasthan Financial Corporation (RFC)

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41. What does the term "Seed Replacement Rate (SRR)" signify in the context of Rajasthan's agricultural schemes?
(A) The percentage of high-yielding genetically modified seeds distributed to farmers for free.
(B) The percentage of cropped area sown with certified seeds instead of farm-saved seeds.
(C) The rate at which state agencies replace crop seeds damaged during extreme drought events.
(D) The percentage of locally produced high-quality seeds exported to neighbouring states.

42. High Yielding Varieties (HYV) adoption in Rajasthan is heavily reliant on the distribution channels of which state corporation?
(A) RIICO
(B) Rajasthan State Seeds Corporation (RSSC)
(C) RSRTC
(D) RAJSIICO

43. Which of the following is a leading cause for the low crop productivity in the western districts of Rajasthan compared to the national average?
(A) Severe scarcity of water resources and erratic rainfall.
(B) Excessive use of organic fertilizers leading to soil toxicity.
(C) Over-fragmentation of land into very small plots unsuitable for tractors.
(D) High incidence of floods during the retreating monsoon.

44. What is a primary agricultural consequence of continuous and excessive canal irrigation without proper drainage in the IGNP command area?
(A) Rapid increase in soil acidity levels
(B) Desertification of active floodplains
(C) Waterlogging and soil salinity/alkalinity
(D) Drastic reduction in air humidity levels

45. Consider the following statements regarding agricultural diversification in Rajasthan:
I. Farmers are increasingly adopting protective cultivation techniques like green-houses and shade-nets.
II. Cultivation of non-traditional crops like Olive and Date Palm is being promoted in Bikaner and Sriganganagar.
III. The state has completely banned the cultivation of traditional cereals to promote cash crops.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

46. Under agricultural diversification, Rajasthan has established an Olive oil extraction plant at which location?
(A) Suratgarh
(B) Phalodi
(C) Lunkaransar
(D) Bassi

47. In the context of Rajasthan's agriculture, what are 'Mahi Sugandha' and 'Chambal'?
(A) Indigenous breeds of dairy cattle
(B) Varieties of High Yielding Rice
(C) Major irrigation projects exclusively for drinking water
(D) Varieties of commercial Cotton

48. The year 2023 was declared by the UN as the International Year of Millets. Which millet crop overwhelmingly dominates the millet acreage and production in Rajasthan?
(A) Ragi (Finger Millet)
(B) Jowar (Sorghum)
(C) Kangni (Foxtail Millet)
(D) Bajra (Pearl Millet)

49. Which of the following wheat varieties is widely recommended and grown in the irrigated regions of Rajasthan?
(A) Raj 3077
(B) Pusa Basmati
(C) Sujata
(D) Giza 7

50. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Kharif agricultural production in Rajasthan demonstrates much higher inter-annual volatility compared to Rabi production.
Reason (R): Kharif crops are predominantly rainfed and directly dependent on the highly erratic southwest monsoon.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

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51. Which of the following represents the correct sequence of crops arranged in increasing order of their average water requirement during the growing season?
(A) Wheat < Guar < Bajra < Rice
(B) Guar < Bajra < Wheat < Rice
(C) Rice < Wheat < Bajra < Guar
(D) Bajra < Wheat < Rice < Guar

52. Which important fodder crop, often referred to as 'Rijka', is cultivated extensively in the irrigated belts of Rajasthan during the Rabi season?
(A) Napier grass
(B) Sorghum
(C) Cluster bean
(D) Lucerne

53. The Hadoti region (Kota, Bundi, Baran, Jhalawar) is the dominant producer of which major Kharif oilseed in Rajasthan?
(A) Groundnut
(B) Soybean
(C) Castor seed
(D) Sunflower

54. Linseed (Alsi) is primarily cultivated in Rajasthan as a:
(A) Kharif pulse
(B) Zaid vegetable
(C) Rabi oilseed
(D) Commercial fibre crop

55. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: (Agricultural Research Institute/Station)
P. Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI)
Q. Agriculture University, Kota
R. Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agriculture University
S. Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology
List II: (District Location)
1. Udaipur
2. Bikaner
3. Kota
4. Jodhpur
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(C) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4

56. Which district is primarily known for the commercial cultivation of Isabgol (Psyllium husk) in Rajasthan?
(A) Jalore
(B) Dausa
(C) Karauli
(D) Rajsamand

57. Tarira (Taramira) is generally sown in Rajasthan under which conditions?
(A) Heavily irrigated fertile soils cultivated during the monsoon Kharif season.
(B) Marginal and moisture-stressed soil conditions during the Rabi season.
(C) Controlled greenhouse farming environments maintained throughout the year.
(D) Waterlogged river basin soils immediately following heavy monsoon floods.

58. Sesame (Til) is predominantly cultivated in Rajasthan during which season?
(A) Rabi
(B) Kharif
(C) Zaid
(D) Winter

59. The transition from traditional food crops to commercial crops in Rajasthan is broadly termed as:
(A) Commercialization of agriculture
(B) Crop rotation
(C) Mixed farming
(D) Shifting cultivation

60. Consider the following statements regarding Zaid crops in Rajasthan:
I. They are grown primarily between March and June.
II. Muskmelon, watermelon, and cucumber are prominent Zaid crops.
III. They heavily depend on assured irrigation facilities as monsoon rains are absent.
IV. Wheat and Gram are the dominant cereals of the Zaid season.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, II and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, III and IV only

61. Arrange the following states in generally descending order of their total Mustard production:
1. Rajasthan

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2. Madhya Pradesh
3. Haryana
4. Uttar Pradesh

Which of the following is the correct sequence?
(A) 1, 2, 3, 4
(B) 1, 4, 2, 3
(C) 2, 1, 4, 3
(D) 1, 2, 4, 3

62. Which of the following is considered the most significant bottleneck for agricultural market access for small and marginal farmers in Rajasthan?
(A) Lack of official commercial export licenses for marketing traditional cereal grains.
(B) Complete statutory prohibition on trading agricultural commodities outside the state.
(C) Inadequate rural transport infrastructure and high distance to APMC mandis.
(D) Heavy state taxation rates imposed on commercial organic fertilizer production.

63. Identify the correct pair representing a crop and its highly suitable agro-climatic zone in Rajasthan:
(A) Maize - Arid Western Plain
(B) Soybean - Humid South-Eastern Plain
(C) Bajra - Flood Prone Eastern Plain
(D) Cotton - Hyper Arid Partial Irrigated Zone

64. Identify the incorrect pair regarding a crop and its major producing district in Rajasthan:
(A) Wheat - Sriganganagar
(B) Gram - Bikaner
(C) Groundnut - Bikaner
(D) Coriander - Jaisalmer

65. Consider the following statements regarding Kharif oilseeds in Rajasthan:
I. Soybean cultivation is largely concentrated in the Hadoti region.
II. Groundnut requires sandy loam soil and is prominent in Bikaner and Jodhpur.
III. Castor seed is widely grown as a Rabi crop in the Mewar region.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

66. A farmer in Banswara district wishes to plant a Kharif crop suited for the local red loam soil and undulating topography. Which of the following crops is the most appropriate recommendation?
(A) Mustard
(B) Barley
(C) Maize
(D) Gram

67. A farmer in Hanumangarh district has access to canal irrigation from the IGNP. Which of the following crop rotations is most commonly practiced and highly lucrative in this region?
(A) Cotton - Wheat
(B) Bajra - Moth
(C) Maize - Gram
(D) Jowar - Taramira

68. Which district of Rajasthan was formally declared as the first fully organic farming district?
(A) Jaipur
(B) Kota
(C) Sriganganagar
(D) Dungarpur

69. Which of the following statements regarding fertilizer usage in Rajasthan's agriculture is incorrect?
(A) Application of chemical fertilizers is highest in northern irrigated districts.
(B) Western arid districts have the highest per-hectare fertilizer consumption.
(C) DAP is heavily utilized during sowing of Rabi crops like Wheat and Mustard.
(D) Urea is the most commonly used nitrogenous fertilizer across all districts.

70. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Cultivation of cash crops has seen a rapid increase in Rajasthan over the last two decades.
Reason (R): The expansion of micro-irrigation and canal networks has reduced the risk associated with commercial agriculture.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

71. Cropping intensity in agriculture is defined as:
(A) The percentage proportion of total irrigated land area relative to rainfed farm area.

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10. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):
Assertion (A): Rajasthan is the leading producer of mustard in India.
Reason (R): Mustard is a Kharif crop that thrives well in the arid sandy soils with high monsoon rainfall.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

11. Which of the following represents the correct sequence of districts in generally descending order of Mustard production in Rajasthan?
(A) Alwar > Bharatpur > Sriganganagar
(B) Sriganganagar > Jaisalmer > Barmer
(C) Udaipur > Bhilwara > Chittorgarh
(D) Bikaner > Churu > Jodhpur

12. Bajra (Pearl Millet) is highly suitable for cultivation in western Rajasthan primarily because of its:
(A) High annual rainfall requirement exceeding 100 cm throughout its growth cycle.
(B) High water requirement necessitating intensive automated micro-irrigation systems.
(C) High drought tolerance and suitability for light sandy soils under heat.
(D) High tolerance for waterlogged soil conditions within canal command areas.

13. Which district is generally the highest producer of Bajra in Rajasthan?
(A) Udaipur
(B) Kota
(C) Banswara
(D) Barmer

14. Which of the following statements about Jowar (Sorghum) cultivation in Rajasthan is incorrect?
(A) It is primarily cultivated as a major rainfed Kharif crop across central districts.
(B) Ajmer, Nagaur, and Pali districts are among its primary producing regions.
(C) It is grown in hyper-arid Jaisalmer due to extreme frost resistance.
(D) It is widely utilized as both a nutritional food grain and green fodder.

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15. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: (Crop)
P. Maize
Q. Bajra
R. Coriander
S. Kinnow
List II: (Leading Producing District/Region in Rajasthan)
1. Baran
2. Sriganganagar
3. Bhilwara
4. Barmer
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

16. The varieties 'Mahi Kanchan' and 'Mahi Dhawal' developed in Rajasthan are associated with which crop?
(A) Wheat
(B) Rice
(C) Barley
(D) Maize

17. The red loam soils of the Mewar region (Udaipur, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh) are highly suitable for the cultivation of which major Kharif crop?
(A) Maize
(B) Gram
(C) Mustard
(D) Barley

18. 'Bikaneri Narma' is a popular variety of which crop grown in Rajasthan?
(A) Groundnut
(B) Guar
(C) Cotton
(D) Wheat

19. Identify the odd one out among the following crops based on their typical cropping season in Rajasthan:
(A) Wheat
(B) Cotton
(C) Groundnut
(D) Soybean

20. Consider the following statements regarding cotton cultivation in Rajasthan:
I. It requires clear skies and plenty of sunshine during the boll maturation stage.
II. Sriganganagar and Hanumangarh are the

the state under the PM-KUSUM scheme.
III. 'Tarabandi' scheme provides financial assistance to protect crops from stray animals.
IV. State government provides 100% subsidy on all chemical fertilizers to every farmer.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and IV only
(B) I, II and III only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, III and IV only

81. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of 'Mixed Cropping' as practiced by farmers in rainfed regions of Rajasthan?
(A) Sowing two or more crops together on the same land without row arrangement.
(B) Simultaneously cultivating field crops and rearing farm livestock on the same agricultural holding.
(C) Cultivating different crops in a strict planned sequence across years to maintain soil fertility.
(D) Planting high-yielding genetically modified seeds side by side with local traditional seeds.

82. Which of the following is considered an institutional challenge rather than an agro-climatic challenge for Rajasthan's agriculture?
(A) Frequent occurrence of droughts
(B) High salinity of groundwater in western districts
(C) Fragmentation of land holdings
(D) High diurnal temperature variation

83. The Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) is implemented in Rajasthan primarily to cover the risks associated with which category of crops?
(A) Commercial horticulture and spice crops
(B) Major cereal crops like Wheat and Barley
(C) Essential pulse crops like Moong and Urad
(D) Seasonal green fodder crops like Lucerne

84. Which of the following states is the largest producer of Cluster bean (Guar) globally, significantly impacting international guar gum prices?
(A) Gujarat
(B) Haryana
(C) Punjab
(D) Rajasthan

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85. What is the primary focus of the "Rajasthan Millets Promotion Mission"?
(A) Completely prohibiting wheat cultivation across arid regions to conserve rapidly depleting groundwater.
(B) Promoting the production, consumption, processing, and value addition of major millets like Bajra and Jowar.
(C) Establishing high-tech automated micro-irrigation infrastructure exclusively dedicated to millet farming.
(D) Mandating the export of all locally harvested organic millets to international European union markets.

86. Which of the following diseases is notoriously associated with the Bajra crop in Rajasthan, causing a green leafy structure to form in place of the earhead?
(A) White rust
(B) Red rot
(C) Green ear disease (Downy mildew)
(D) Tikka disease

87. Identify the correct statement regarding agriculture in Rajasthan:
(A) Rajasthan is the largest producer of rice in India.
(B) The net sown area constitutes less than 10% of the state's total geographical area.
(C) The state possesses abundant perennial rivers ensuring 100% canal irrigation for all cultivable land.
(D) Rajasthan holds a near monopoly in the production of crops like Bajra, Mustard, and Guar in India.

88. Which crop is locally known as "Safed Sona" (White Gold) in the agricultural belts of Sriganganagar and Hanumangarh?
(A) Cotton
(B) Wheat
(C) Rice
(D) Groundnut

89. Which of the following is a major Kharif crop of Rajasthan that is highly susceptible to white grub (Safed Lat) infestation?
(A) Wheat
(B) Groundnut
(C) Mustard
(D) Barley

and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

31. Under the impact of the Indira Gandhi Canal Project (IGNP), which of the following traditional crops saw a relative decline in acreage in its command area?
(A) Wheat
(B) Bajra and Moth
(C) Cotton
(D) Mustard

32. Which fruit crop has seen immense commercial success in the Sriganganagar district due to favourable micro-climate and canal irrigation?
(A) Apple
(B) Mango
(C) Pineapple
(D) Kinnow

33. The districts of Jalore and Barmer have emerged as major hubs for the cultivation of which commercially valuable horticultural crop?
(A) Pomegranate (Anar)
(B) Litchi
(C) Coconut
(D) Kiwi

34. The National Research Centre on Seed Spices (NRCSS) is located at which place in Rajasthan?
(A) Mandore, Jodhpur
(B) Bichwal, Bikaner
(C) Tabiji, Ajmer
(D) Durgapura, Jaipur

35. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below:
List I: (Spice Crop)
P. Coriander (Dhaniya)
Q. Cumin (Jeera)
R. Fenugreek (Methi)
S. Garlic (Lahsun)
List II: (Major Producing District in Rajasthan)
1. Baran
2. Jalore
3. Nagaur
4. Baran/Kota
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4

36. Which district is famously known as the 'Cumin (Jeera) bowl' of Rajasthan?
(A) Banswara
(B) Jhunjhunu
(C) Dholpur
(D) Jalore

37. Nagaur district is geographically renowned nationwide for the production of which specific spice?
(A) Turmeric
(B) Fenugreek (Methi)
(C) Cardamom
(D) Black Pepper

38. What is the designated role of 'RAJFED' in the context of Rajasthan's agriculture?
(A) Regulating groundwater extraction and issuing farm tube-well permits.
(B) Providing direct short-term crop loans to individual small farmers.
(C) Procuring agricultural commodities under the Minimum Support Price.
(D) Manufacturing and distributing chemical fertilizers across all districts.

39. Which central institution recommends the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for mandated crops in India, applicable to Rajasthan's farmers?
(A) National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog)
(B) Reserve Bank of India (Central Banking Institution)
(C) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR New Delhi)
(D) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)

40. Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) implementation in Rajasthan:
I. The premium rate paid by farmers for all Kharif crops is 2%.
II. The premium rate paid by farmers for all Rabi crops is 1.5%.
III. The premium rate for annual commercial and horticultural crops is 5%.
IV. It only covers post-harvest losses and excludes standing crop damage.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and IV only
(B) I, II and III only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, III and IV only

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1. (A) June to July
Kharif crops in Rajasthan are sown with the onset of the southwest monsoon, typically during June and July. These rainfed crops depend heavily on monsoon rainfall for early growth and vegetative development. Major Kharif crops cultivated across the state include pearl millet, maize, sorghum, groundnut, sesame, and various pulses, which are harvested around October.

2. (C) A short season between Rabi and Kharif during summer, primarily for growing vegetables, melons, and fodder.
The Zaid cropping season fills the brief agricultural window between the winter Rabi harvest and the monsoon Kharif sowing, running from March to June. Agriculture during this warm period relies completely on assured irrigation. Farmers mainly cultivate quick-maturing crops, including muskmelon, watermelon, cucumber, seasonal vegetables, and green fodder to maximize land productivity.

3. (A) It is a major Rabi crop cultivated extensively in the irrigated plains of northern and eastern Rajasthan.
Wheat is the primary cereal crop grown during the Rabi season in Rajasthan, requiring cool weather during vegetative growth and warm sunny conditions during ripening. Its extensive cultivation is concentrated in the well-irrigated plains of northern and eastern districts such as Sriganganagar, Hanumangarh, Kota, Alwar, and Bharatpur, where soil moisture and canal infrastructure are abundant.

4. (D) Barley is more tolerant to saline soils and requires less irrigation than wheat.
Barley serves as a hardy alternative to wheat in regions characterized by poor water availability and soil degradation. It possesses high physiological tolerance to soil salinity and alkalinity, enabling healthy development under sub-optimal soil conditions. Furthermore, barley demands fewer irrigation cycles than wheat, making it an economically viable choice for farmers in moisture-scarce areas.

5. (A) I and II only
Wheat is a vital Rabi crop requiring low temperatures for optimal tillering and shoot development. Sriganganagar and Hanumangarh lead in wheat production due to advanced canal irrigation networks. Light winter rains, locally called Mawath, are highly beneficial rather than harmful, as they supply essential soil moisture and cooler ambient temperatures during critical growth phases.

6. (C) Rabi
Gram, commonly known as chickpea or chana, is a dominant pulse crop cultivated during the Rabi season across Rajasthan. Sown in autumn between October and November, it thrives in cool weather and moderate soil moisture. Gram relies on residual soil moisture or limited irrigation and is harvested in early spring around March and April.

7. (D) Urad (Black gram)
Urad, or black gram, is classified as a Kharif pulse crop rather than a Rabi crop in Rajasthan. Sown during June and July with the arrival of the monsoon, it requires warm temperatures and rainfall for growth. Conversely, pulses like gram, lentil, and field peas are cultivated exclusively during the cooler winter Rabi season.

8. (A) Cool winter climate and suitable soils in eastern and northern districts.
Rajasthan leads Indian mustard production due to ideal agro-climatic conditions across its northern and eastern belts. The region features cool winter temperatures, moderate frost-free periods, and fertile loamy to sandy loam soils that facilitate optimal seed yield and oil accumulation. Supplementary irrigation networks further support mustard growth across major producing districts during winter.

9. (B) Bharatpur
The Directorate of Rapeseed-Mustard Research, established under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, is situated at Sewar in Bharatpur district. This premier institute focuses on advanced research, crop improvement, high-yielding seed development, and disease

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31. (B) Bajra and Moth
Before canal irrigation, arid northwestern Rajasthan relied on rainfed dryland farming dominated by coarse, drought-tolerant crops like Bajra and Moth. With assured water supply provided by the Indira Gandhi Canal, farmers shifted land allocation toward water-intensive and higher-yielding cash crops, causing a relative decline in Bajra and Moth crop acreage.

32. (D) Kinnow
Kinnow, a high-yielding citrus hybrid fruit, has achieved remarkable commercial success in Sriganganagar and Hanumangarh districts. The region's sandy loam soil, combined with canal irrigation from the Indira Gandhi and Gang canals and favorable climatic conditions with cool winters, creates ideal environments for commercial citrus orchards and large-scale fruit production.

33. (A) Pomegranate (Anar)
Jalore and Barmer districts have emerged as significant hubs for commercial pomegranate cultivation, particularly growing the popular 'Bhagwa' variety. The adoption of micro-irrigation systems, drip technology, and desert climate management allows farmers in these arid regions to produce high-quality, export-grade pomegranates efficiently despite limited regional groundwater reserves across the state.

34. (C) Tabiji, Ajmer
The National Research Centre on Seed Spices was established by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research at Tabiji in Ajmer district. This institution specializes in conducting basic and applied research on seed spice crops, including cumin, coriander, fennel, fenugreek, and ajwain, aiming to enhance productivity, seed quality, and disease resistance.

35. (B) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
Spice crops in Rajasthan show distinct regional concentration based on climatic preferences. Coriander thrives in the Hadoti region around Baran and Kota. Cumin production is centered in western semi-arid districts like Jalore. Fenugreek, particularly scented 'Kasturi Methi', is famous in Nagaur, while garlic is heavily produced in Baran spice district.

36. (D) Jalore
Jalore district is widely acknowledged as the leading cumin producing belt in Rajasthan, often referred to as the 'Cumin bowl'. The light loamy sand soils and dry, cool winter climate of Jalore provide ideal conditions for cumin cultivation, contributing significantly to the state's total output of this valuable seed spice.

37. (B) Fenugreek (Methi)
Nagaur district is famous across India for producing high-quality fenugreek, particularly the highly aromatic variant known as 'Kasturi Methi' or green leafy fenugreek. Sown as a Rabi crop, Nagaur's unique soil chemistry and dry winter climate yield fenugreek with intense aroma, exceptional flavor, and rich medicinal and culinary properties statewide.

38. (C) Procuring agricultural commodities under the Minimum Support Price.
The Rajasthan State Cooperative Marketing Federation (RAJFED) acts as the apex cooperative institution in the state for agricultural marketing. Its primary statutory responsibility includes executing market price support schemes on behalf of central and state agencies, procuring oilseeds, pulses, and cereals directly from farmers at set Minimum Support Prices.

39. (D) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)
The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, an attached office under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, evaluates production costs, input trends, and market dynamics to recommend Minimum Support Prices for mandated crops in India. The Central Government considers these recommendations to fix MSP rates for farmers operating nationwide.

40. (B) I, II and III only
Under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, uniform maximum premium rates are set for farmers: 2% for Kharif crops, 1.5% for Rabi crops, and 5% for annual commercial or horticultural crops. The scheme provides comprehensive risk coverage against non-preventable natural risks during pre-sowing, standing crop growth, and post-harvest crop stages.

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Hanumangarh lead in American cotton output using canal water. Cotton is prone to Pink Bollworm infestation, which damages fibers and bolls, while being entirely a Kharif crop, not a Rabi crop.

21. (A) 2, 1, 3, 4
Rajasthan ranks first in India for Bajra production and total cultivated area, producing over 40 percent of the overall national output due to its vast arid plains. Uttar Pradesh holds the second position, followed by Haryana in third place and Maharashtra in fourth, representing the descending order of major producing states.

22. (C) Lunkaransar
Lunkaransar, situated in Bikaner district, is widely known as the "Rajkot of Rajasthan." This nickname stems from its high yield and intensive production of groundnut, mirroring Rajkot in Gujarat, which is globally renowned as a major hub for groundnut cultivation, oil extraction, industrial processing, and commercial trading operations in Western India.

23. (D) Kharif
Groundnut is predominantly cultivated as a Kharif oilseed crop across Rajasthan. Sown with the arrival of monsoon rains in June and July, it grows best in well-drained sandy loam soils under warm atmospheric conditions. The crop matures by autumn and is harvested around October and November across major producing districts.

24. (A) Nagaur
Nagaur district is the leading producer of Moong, or green gram, in Rajasthan. The semi-arid climate, light sandy loam soil, and rainfall patterns in Nagaur provide ideal conditions for pulse cultivation. Moong serves as a vital rainfed Kharif crop that enhances soil fertility through biological nitrogen fixation across the region.

25. (D) I, II and III
Guar, or cluster bean, is a vital leguminous crop in Rajasthan, which contributes over 70% of India's total production. As a legume, it fixes atmospheric nitrogen, improving soil health. Furthermore, guar gum derived from its seeds is heavily utilized as a thickening agent in international hydraulic fracturing for shale gas extraction.

26. (B) Moth bean
Moth bean, locally known as Moth, is a highly drought-resistant Kharif pulse cultivated extensively in the arid soils of Bikaner. The flour derived from moth beans, known for its distinct texture and protein content, serves as the essential primary raw material for making the famous crispy Bikaneri Bhujia snack industry.

27. (A) South-Eastern regions (Bundi, Tonk, Kota)
Urad, or black gram, requires medium to heavy black clayey or loamy soils along with moderate rainfall for optimal growth. Consequently, its cultivation is largely concentrated in the south-eastern and eastern districts of Rajasthan, including Bundi, Tonk, Kota, Baran, and Jhalawar, rather than the hyper-arid western desert tracts of the state.

28. (C) They require long maturation periods with year-round field occupation.
Pulses like Moong and Moth are short-duration crops that mature in 60 to 90 days, occupying fields for a very brief period. Their short lifecycle allows farmers to practice double cropping. Additionally, they require minimal irrigation water, enrich soil nitrogen levels naturally, and cover ground to minimize wind-induced soil erosion.

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29. (D) The proportion of area under various crops at a given point of time.
Cropping pattern refers to the spatial and temporal distribution of crops grown across a specific geographical area over a given period. It represents the proportion of total cultivated land allocated to different food grains, pulses, oilseeds, and commercial crops, reflecting the region's physical environment, climate, technology, and economic priorities and infrastructure.

30. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The northwestern districts of Rajasthan experienced a major agricultural transformation following the construction of the Indira Gandhi Canal Network. Assured canal water availability enabled farmers to transition from drought-hardy coarse cereals like bajra and moth to high-value commercial crops such as wheat, mustard, cotton, and groundnut, directly proving the causal relationship.

72. (A) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)
The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, specifically through its 'Per Drop More Crop' component, provides substantial financial subsidies to farmers in Rajasthan for installing micro-irrigation infrastructure like drip and sprinkler systems. This initiative aims to enhance farm water-use efficiency, conserve groundwater, and boost crop productivity in arid agricultural zones.

73. (B) Sugarcane
Sugarcane is not procured by RAJFED under the Price Support Scheme. Instead, sugarcane pricing in India is regulated under Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) guidelines, with sugar mills directly purchasing cane from growers. RAJFED primarily handles PSS procurement for mandated oilseeds and pulse crops like mustard, gram, and soybean crops.

74. (B) Guar
While Moong, Moth, and Urad are pulse crops cultivated primarily for direct human food consumption as protein sources, Guar (cluster bean) is an industrial leguminous cash crop. Guar is grown mainly for extracting guar gum from its seeds, used extensively in drilling, food, and paper manufacturing industries worldwide.

75. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
Agricultural digital platforms and schemes fulfill targeted objectives in Rajasthan: e-NAM connects wholesale mandis online for price discovery; PMFBY provides crop insurance against natural hazards; the Soil Health Card scheme advises on soil nutrients and fertilizer use; and Raj Kisan Sathi Portal serves as a unified digital platform for farmer services.

76. (C) Spraying a dilute 0.1% Sulphuric acid solution or providing light crop field irrigation.
During severe winter cold waves, frost damages crops by freezing plant cell water. Applying light field irrigation increases soil moisture and heat retention capacity, raising ambient field temperatures. Additionally, spraying a dilute 0.1% sulphuric acid solution provides chemical protection by lowering the freezing point of water on standing crop leaves.

77. (D) State Agriculture Universities (SAUs) and ICAR
State Agricultural Universities, alongside the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, directly manage agricultural extension services and Krishi Vigyan Kendras across Rajasthan. These institutions conduct field demonstrations, transfer farm technologies, train agricultural workers, and provide science-based agronomic guidance directly to farming communities to improve local crop yields statewide.

78. (C) Around 28-30%
The Agriculture and Allied Sector remains a fundamental driver of Rajasthan's economy, contributing approximately 28 to 30 percent to the Gross State Value Added at constant prices. This sector encompasses crop husbandry, livestock rearing, forestry, and fisheries, supporting livelihoods and employment for a vast majority of the rural state population.

79. (B) Wheat
Wheat is a high nutrient-demanding cereal crop requiring significant nitrogen inputs for vegetative growth, tillering, and grain development. In contrast, pulse crops like gram, moong, and moth are leguminous plants capable of fixing atmospheric nitrogen through root nodules, requiring minimal external nitrogenous fertilizer application for optimal crop yield.

80. (B) I, II and III only
The Rajasthan Mukhyamantri Krishak Sathi Yojana offers financial relief for agricultural accidents, PM-KUSUM promotes solar water pumps, and the Tarabandi scheme provides subsidies for crop fencing against animals. However, the government does not offer 100% subsidies on all chemical fertilizers, as fertilizer pricing is federally regulated and partially subsidized nationwide.

81. (A) Sowing two or more crops together on the same land without row arrangement.
Mixed cropping involves growing two or more crops simultaneously on the same piece of land without distinct row arrangements. Commonly practiced in rainfed regions of Rajasthan, such as mixing bajra with pulses or oilseeds, this technique reduces risk of total crop failure, optimizes soil nutrient utilization, and ensures farm income security.

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41. (B) The percentage of cropped area sown with certified seeds instead of farm-saved seeds.
Seed Replacement Rate measures the percentage of total cropped area sown with quality certified seeds relative to farm-saved seeds. Higher replacement rates ensure better genetic purity, higher disease resistance, and enhanced crop yields, which state agricultural programs actively promote by distributing certified seeds to improve overall state productivity.

42. (B) Rajasthan State Seeds Corporation (RSSC)
The Rajasthan State Seeds Corporation, established to support seed production and distribution, is the primary agency for supplying certified High Yielding Varieties of seeds to farmers. RSSC produces, processes, and markets quality seeds across Rajasthan through extensive distribution networks, ensuring farmers access resilient and high-yield crop seed varieties.

43. (A) Severe scarcity of water resources and erratic rainfall.
Low agricultural productivity in western Rajasthan stems primarily from extreme water scarcity, highly variable monsoon rainfall, and frequent drought cycles. The region suffers from sandy soils with poor organic matter and low moisture retention capacity, which restricts rainfed crop yields and limits intensive farming without proper irrigation.

44. (C) Waterlogging and soil salinity/alkalinity
Uncontrolled and excessive canal irrigation in the Indira Gandhi Canal command area, coupled with shallow clay hardpans and poor natural drainage, causes the water table to rise near the surface. This leads to severe waterlogging and capillary action that brings soluble salts upward, resulting in soil salinization and land degradation.

45. (A) I and II only
Agricultural diversification in Rajasthan involves adopting protected cultivation methods like shade-nets and poly-houses to optimize water usage in horticulture. Non-traditional commercial crops such as olives and date palms have been successfully introduced in arid districts like Bikaner and Sriganganagar. Traditional cereal crops remain widely cultivated alongside these ongoing diversification efforts.

46. (C) Lunkaransar
Rajasthan established India's first commercial olive oil extraction plant at Lunkaransar in Bikaner district. Promoted by the Rajasthan Olive Cultivation Limited through technical collaboration with Israel, this facility processes olives harvested from commercial orchards established across arid regions, supporting agricultural diversification and high-value horticulture in the state.

47. (B) Varieties of High Yielding Rice
Mahi Sugandha and Chambal are popular high-yielding varieties of rice cultivated in Rajasthan. Mahi Sugandha, an aromatic rice variety developed at the Banswara research station, is suited for southern red soils. Chambal is a high-yielding variety grown extensively in the canal command areas of the Chambal river valley in Kota and Bundi.

48. (D) Bajra (Pearl Millet)
Bajra, or pearl millet, overwhelmingly dominates millet acreage and total production in Rajasthan, making the state the top bajra producer in India. Adapted to the arid environment, bajra is a resilient staple crop cultivated across rainfed western and central districts, contributing substantially to food security, fodder supply, and rural agricultural economies.

49. (A) Raj 3077
Raj 3077 is a prominent high-yielding wheat variety developed specifically by agricultural scientists for irrigated conditions in Rajasthan. It features high resistance to rust diseases, good tolerance to lodging and thermal stress, and produces high-quality grain, making it popular among farmers in irrigated northern and eastern agricultural zones.

50. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Kharif crop output in Rajasthan fluctuates significantly between years because Kharif farming is predominantly rainfed and dependent on monsoon rainfall onset, distribution, and intensity. In contrast, Rabi crop production is stabilized by ground and surface irrigation networks, directly explaining why Kharif harvests exhibit higher annual yield volatility than Rabi crops.

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management strategies to boost yield, oil content, and stress resilience of rapeseed and mustard crops nationwide.

10. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
Rajasthan consistently ranks first in mustard output within India, producing a major share of the national harvest. However, mustard is fundamentally a Rabi oilseed crop, not a Kharif crop. It is sown during autumn and thrives in cool, dry winter weather with minimal irrigation, making high monsoon rainfall and arid Kharif conditions irrelevant to its growth.

11. (A) Alwar > Bharatpur > Sriganganagar
Eastern and northern districts dominate mustard production in Rajasthan due to favourable winter climate and alluvial soil conditions. Alwar consistently records the highest total production, followed closely by Bharatpur and Sriganganagar. These prominent districts benefit from extensive seasonal cultivation, tube-well or canal irrigation, and high adoption of improved mustard varieties.

12. (C) High drought tolerance and suitability for light sandy soils under heat.
Bajra, or pearl millet, is well-adapted to the harsh environment of western Rajasthan. It possesses a deep root system, high photosynthetic efficiency, and remarkable drought resistance, allowing growth under low rainfall and high temperatures. Additionally, it thrives in light sandy soils where water retention is low and other cereals fail.

13. (D) Barmer
Barmer district generally leads in total land area dedicated to Bajra cultivation as well as overall harvest output in Rajasthan. Located in the hyper-arid western zone, Barmer possesses sandy desert soil and rainfed agrarian conditions that perfectly align with Bajra's drought-hardy characteristics, making it the top producer during normal monsoon years.

14. (C) It is grown in hyper-arid Jaisalmer due to extreme frost resistance.
Jowar, or sorghum, is primarily a Kharif rainfed crop grown in semi-arid central districts like Ajmer, Nagaur, Pali, and Tonk for grain and green fodder. It is not grown in hyper-arid Jaisalmer for frost resistance, as Jaisalmer lacks suited climatic conditions and Jowar cannot endure severe frost or hyper-arid desert stress.

15. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Specific crops thrive in distinct geographical regions of Rajasthan based on soil type and water availability. Maize dominates the hilly Mewar zone, including Bhilwara. Bajra leads in arid western Barmer. Coriander finds ideal growth conditions in south-eastern Baran, while citrus fruits like Kinnow flourish in northern irrigated canal belts of Sriganganagar.

16. (D) Maize
Mahi Kanchan and Mahi Dhawal are prominent high-yielding varieties of composite maize developed specifically for southern Rajasthan by the Agricultural Research Station at Banswara. These early-maturing, disease-resistant varieties are tailored for rainfed monsoon cultivation in red loam soils, ensuring stable grain and fodder yields for farmers across southern tribal districts.

17. (A) Maize
The southern hilly Mewar region, encompassing Udaipur, Bhilwara, Rajsamand, and Chittorgarh districts, features well-drained red loamy soil rich in iron content. Maize is the principal Kharif food grain grown in this region, as this soil type provides excellent drainage, optimal aeration, and sturdy root anchorage under warm monsoon rainfall conditions.

18. (C) Cotton
Bikaneri Narma is a famous medium-staple cultivar of American cotton extensively cultivated in northern and north-western Rajasthan, particularly across Sriganganagar, Hanumangarh, and Bikaner districts. It is highly valued for its soft fiber length, adaptability to canal irrigation systems, superior yield potential, and high commercial demand in local textile mills.

19. (A) Wheat
Wheat is a winter Rabi crop sown during autumn and harvested in early spring. In contrast, cotton, groundnut, and soybean are Kharif crops sown with the onset of the southwest monsoon in June and July and harvested in autumn. Wheat thus differs from the other listed crops based on seasonal classification.

20. (A) I, II and IV only
Cotton is a major Kharif cash crop requiring warm weather, clear skies, and bright sunshine during boll maturation. Sriganganagar and

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descending order of mustard-producing states across the entire country.

62. (C) Inadequate rural transport infrastructure and high distance to APMC mandis.
Small and marginal farmers in Rajasthan face major obstacles in agricultural marketing due to underdeveloped rural transport networks, poor road connectivity, and long distances to regulated APMC mandis. These infrastructure gaps increase transportation costs, increase post-harvest perishable losses, and force farmers to sell produce to local middlemen at non-remunerative prices.

63. (B) Soybean - Humid South-Eastern Plain
The Humid South-Eastern Plain, which encompasses the Hadoti region, provides ideal growing conditions for soybean cultivation. The zone features fertile black soil, high water-retention capacity, and adequate monsoon rainfall, making soybean the predominant Kharif oilseed in this region, unlike arid or flood-prone zones unsuited for commercial soybean production statewide.

64. (D) Coriander - Jaisalmer
Coriander is a major seed spice crop that requires semi-humid to humid conditions and fertile loamy or clayey soils. In Rajasthan, its production is concentrated in the south-eastern Hadoti districts, particularly Baran and Kota. Arid Jaisalmer, with its sandy desert soils and extreme water scarcity, is unsuitable for commercial coriander.

65. (A) I and II only
Soybean is cultivated heavily as a Kharif oilseed in the Hadoti region's fertile black soils. Groundnut grows in sandy loams across Bikaner and Jodhpur during the Kharif season. However, castor seed is primarily a Kharif crop grown in western and southwestern districts, not a Rabi crop in Mewar region.

66. (C) Maize
Maize is the most suitable Kharif crop for Banswara district due to its compatibility with local red loam soils and undulating topography. Red loam provides necessary soil aeration and rapid water drainage, preventing waterlogging on slopes during heavy monsoon rains while fulfilling the warm, humid climate requirements for optimal maize development.

67. (A) Cotton - Wheat
In Hanumangarh district, assured canal irrigation from the Indira Gandhi Canal Network supports an intensive and profitable Cotton - Wheat crop rotation. Cotton is cultivated as a commercial Kharif cash crop during summer and autumn, followed by Wheat sown as a major food grain during the cool winter Rabi season on the same land.

68. (D) Dungarpur
Dungarpur district was formally declared as Rajasthan's first fully organic farming district. This recognition was achieved through systematic state initiatives promoting organic fertilizer usage, vermicomposting, elimination of synthetic chemical pesticides, and traditional eco-friendly farming practices among local agricultural communities to ensure sustainable farming and long-term ecological balance.

69. (B) Western arid districts have the highest per-hectare fertilizer consumption.
Per-hectare consumption of chemical fertilizers in Rajasthan is lowest in western arid districts like Jaisalmer and Barmer, due to rainfed dryland farming and low crop density. In contrast, northern and south-eastern canal-irrigated districts like Sriganganagar, Hanumangarh, and Kota record the highest per-hectare chemical fertilizer application intensity rates.

70. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The rapid shift toward cash crop cultivation in Rajasthan over recent decades is directly enabled by expanding canal networks and micro-irrigation systems. Assured water supply mitigates monsoon dependency, reducing production risks associated with commercial farming and encouraging farmers to invest in high-value cash crops like oilseeds, spices, and cotton crops.

71. (D) The mathematical ratio of gross cropped area to net sown area, multiplied by 100.
Cropping intensity measures how efficiently land resources are utilized during an agricultural year. It is calculated mathematically as the ratio of Gross Cropped Area (total area sown once and more than once) to Net Sown Area, multiplied by 100. Higher cropping intensity reflects multiple cropping practices enabled by proper irrigation.

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51. (B) Guar < Bajra < Wheat < Rice
Crops differ substantially in seasonal water requirements. Guar is extremely drought-tolerant with minimal water needs, followed closely by Bajra, which grows in arid rainfed conditions. Wheat is a winter crop requiring multiple irrigation cycles, while Rice demands continuously flooded or saturated fields, making it the most water-intensive crop listed here.

52. (D) Lucerne
Lucerne, locally referred to as 'Rijka', is a premier perennial leguminous fodder crop cultivated extensively across irrigated belts of Rajasthan during the Rabi season. It yields multiple cuttings of highly nutritious green fodder rich in protein and minerals, supporting livestock feed requirements and enhancing overall state dairy development programs.

53. (B) Soybean
Soybean is the principal Kharif oilseed cultivated in the Hadoti region, which comprises Kota, Bundi, Baran, and Jhalawar districts. The fertile deep black clay soils and reliable monsoon precipitation in this southeastern plateau provide optimal growing conditions, enabling Hadoti to account for the major portion of Rajasthan's total soybean output.

54. (C) Rabi oilseed
Linseed, known locally as Alsi, is cultivated in Rajasthan as a minor Rabi oilseed crop. Sown in October and November and harvested in March and April, linseed thrives in cool weather and clay loam or alluvial soils. It is valued commercially for producing industrial oil, high-protein oilcake, and flax fibers.

55. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Key agricultural institutes are located strategically across Rajasthan: the Central Arid Zone Research Institute operates in Jodhpur; Agriculture University is situated in Kota; Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University functions from Bikaner; and Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology is based in Udaipur, advancing agricultural education and regional agricultural research.

56. (A) Jalore
Jalore district is the primary hub for the commercial cultivation of Isabgol, or Psyllium husk, in Rajasthan. Grown as a Rabi crop, Isabgol requires well-drained sandy loam soil, cool weather, and dry climate during seed head maturity, conditions where Jalore leads the state in acreage, processing, and export trade output.

57. (B) Marginal and moisture-stressed soil conditions during the Rabi season.
Taramira, or rocket salad, is an oilseed crop cultivated under marginal and moisture-stressed dryland conditions during the Rabi season in Rajasthan. It exhibits remarkable drought tolerance and can grow in poor, light-textured soils where water availability is limited, serving as a dependable, low-input crop for resource-constrained farmers in semi-arid regions.

58. (B) Kharif
Sesame, locally known as Til, is predominantly cultivated as a Kharif oilseed crop across Rajasthan. It is sown during June and July with monsoon rains and requires warm weather, moderate rainfall, and well-drained soils. Harvesting occurs around October, contributing significantly to the state's edible oilseed production and supply.

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59. (A) Commercialization of agriculture
The transition from growing traditional food crops for subsistence to cultivating cash crops for market sale is broadly defined as the commercialization of agriculture. In Rajasthan, this shift is driven by expanding irrigation, market access, and modern technology, motivating farmers to produce market-oriented commodities like mustard, cotton, and spices statewide.

60. (A) I, II and III only
Zaid crops are cultivated during the brief summer window from March to June between the Rabi and Kharif seasons. Common Zaid crops include water-rich fruits and vegetables like muskmelon, watermelon, and cucumber, which depend heavily on irrigation due to rainless weather. Wheat and gram are winter Rabi crops, not Zaid crops.

61. (A) 1, 2, 3, 4
Rajasthan leads Indian mustard production, accounting for the largest national share due to extensive cultivation in its northern and eastern regions. Madhya Pradesh holds the second rank, followed by Haryana in third position and Uttar Pradesh in fourth, representing the correct

82. (C) Fragmentation of land holdings
Fragmentation of land holdings is an institutional and socio-economic challenge caused by inheritance laws and population pressure, resulting in small, scattered agricultural plots. Conversely, droughts, groundwater salinity, and temperature variations are natural agro-climatic constraints determined by geographic and environmental conditions in Rajasthan rather than policy or land tenure institutional structures.

83. (A) Commercial horticulture and spice crops
The Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme is implemented in Rajasthan primarily for commercial horticultural, fruit, and spice crops like cumin, coriander, citrus, and fenugreek. It provides financial protection against adverse micro-climatic parameters such as frost, unseasonal rainfall, high humidity, and temperature fluctuations recorded at localized farm weather stations.

84. (D) Rajasthan
Rajasthan is the largest global producer of Cluster bean (Guar), accounting for the overwhelming majority of world supply. The state's arid western soil and monsoon climate provide an ideal ecological niche for guar cultivation, allowing Rajasthan to dominate global guar gum processing and exports to international industrial trade markets.

85. (B) Promoting the production, consumption, processing, and value addition of major millets like Bajra and Jowar.
The Rajasthan Millets Promotion Mission focuses on boosting the cultivation, processing, consumption, and marketing of major and minor millets like Bajra and Jowar. It offers subsidies for setting up processing units, provides high-yielding seeds, promotes nutritional awareness, and encourages value addition to enhance farmer incomes across arid and semi-arid regions.

86. (C) Green ear disease (Downy mildew)
Green ear disease, also known as Downy Mildew caused by Sclerospora graminicola, is a widespread fungal infection affecting Bajra in Rajasthan. The disease transforms normal floral parts of the earhead into green leafy structures, rendering the plant sterile and severely reducing grain production in affected pearl millet agricultural crops.

87. (D) Rajasthan holds a near monopoly in the production of crops like Bajra, Mustard, and Guar in India.
Rajasthan holds a leading position and near monopoly in India for producing Bajra, Mustard, and Guar. Due to its unique agro-climatic conditions, vast arid landmass, and specialized dryland agriculture, the state consistently leads national production tables for these resilient crops, supplying significant shares of food, fodder, and industrial raw materials nationwide.

88. (A) Cotton
Cotton is locally referred to as "Safed Sona" or White Gold in Sriganganagar, Hanumangarh, and nearby farming districts of Rajasthan. This name reflects its immense economic value as a commercial cash crop, driving rural trade, supporting ginning and spinning mills, and generating substantial income for farmers in irrigated canal command areas.

89. (B) Groundnut
Groundnut is a major Kharif crop in Rajasthan that suffers severe damage from white grub infestations, locally known as Safed Lat. The soil-dwelling larvae feed aggressively on plant root systems and developing subterranean pods during rainy months, causing plant wilting, extensive field destruction, and significant economic losses for groundnut cultivators.

90. (B) Rajasthan State Agricultural Marketing Board (RSAMB)
The Rajasthan State Agricultural Marketing Board is the statutory body established to oversee and regulate agricultural produce markets across the state. RSAMB develops market infrastructure, enforces fair trading practices, ensures competitive bidding in mandis, and protects farmers from exploitation, thereby facilitating transparent price discovery and efficient commodity marketing for agricultural producers.

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CHAPTER 18
Population of Rajasthan

1. According to the 2011 Census, what is the approximate share of Rajasthan's population in the total population of India?
(A) 4.56 percent
(B) 5.66 percent
(C) 6.76 percent
(D) 10.41 percent

2. As per the final data of Census 2011, what is the total population of Rajasthan?
(A) 5,65,07,188
(B) 7,85,48,437
(C) 8,10,34,221
(D) 6,85,48,437

3. Consider the following statements regarding Rajasthan's population:
Statement I: The population density of Rajasthan increased from 165 persons per sq. km in 2001 to 200 persons per sq. km in 2011.
Statement II: The decadal population growth rate of Rajasthan registered an increase in the 2001-2011 decade compared to the 1991-2001 decade.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
(C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
(D) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

4. Which of the following districts of Rajasthan recorded the highest absolute population in the 2011 Census?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Alwar
(C) Jaipur
(D) Nagaur

5. Which of the following districts recorded the lowest absolute population in Rajasthan as per the 2011 Census?
(A) Jaisalmer
(B) Pratapgarh
(C) Sirohi
(D) Bundi

6. Consider the following districts of Rajasthan:
I. Barmer
II. Jodhpur
III. Jaisalmer
IV. Banswara
Which of the following represents the correct descending order of their decadal population growth rate (2001-2011)?
(A) I, II, III, IV
(B) I, III, II, IV
(C) III, I, IV, II
(D) I, III, IV, II

7. Read the following statements regarding the population growth of Rajasthan:
Assertion (A): The western desert districts of Rajasthan generally exhibit a higher decadal population growth rate compared to the eastern and southern districts.
Reason (R): These districts historically had a lower population base, coupled with higher birth rates and lower literacy levels.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

8. What is the overall population density of Rajasthan as per the 2011 Census?
(A) 165 persons per sq. km
(B) 382 persons per sq. km
(C) 200 persons per sq. km
(D) 400 persons per sq. km

9. Identify the group of districts in Rajasthan where the population density is less than 100 persons per square kilometer (Census 2011).
(A) Jaisalmer, Churu, and Jodhpur
(B) Bikaner, Barmer, and Jalore
(C) Jaisalmer, Barmer, and Pali

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(D) Jaisalmer, Bikaner, and Barmer

10. The concept of 'population density' in standard demographic terms for resource planning is best defined as:
(A) The ratio of total population to total area, measured per square kilometer.
(B) The proportion of the total population residing permanently in designated urban centers.
(C) The annual number of live births per thousand individuals within a given administrative region.
(D) The percentage of the economically active population engaged in agriculture per square kilometer.

11. Which district in Rajasthan has the highest population density (Census 2011)?
(A) Bharatpur
(B) Jaipur
(C) Dausa
(D) Alwar

12. Match List I with List II regarding the population density of districts in Rajasthan (Census 2011):
List I: District
P. Jaipur
Q. Bharatpur
R. Dausa
S. Alwar
List II: Population Density
1. 503
2. 595
3. 438
4. 476
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

13. What is the overall literacy rate of Rajasthan as per the 2011 Census?
(A) 66.1 percent
(B) 60.4 percent
(C) 73.0 percent
(D) 79.2 percent

14. What is the approximate gender gap in the literacy rate (difference between male and female literacy rates) in Rajasthan as per Census 2011?
(A) 15.5 percent
(B) 21.3 percent
(C) 27.1 percent
(D) 32.4 percent

15. Select the correct sequence of districts in descending order of their overall literacy rates (Census 2011):
(A) Kota, Jaipur, Jhunjhunu, Sikar
(B) Jaipur, Kota, Sikar, Jhunjhunu
(C) Kota, Jhunjhunu, Jaipur, Sikar
(D) Jhunjhunu, Kota, Jaipur, Sikar

16. Identify the correct pair regarding the extremes of literacy in Rajasthan (Census 2011):
(A) Highest Male Literacy - Kota
(B) Highest Overall Literacy - Jaipur
(C) Lowest Female Literacy - Jalore
(D) Lowest Male Literacy - Barmer

17. Find the odd one out among the following districts based on their overall sex ratio being exceptionally high (above 990) in Census 2011:
(A) Dungarpur
(B) Dholpur
(C) Rajsamand
(D) Pratapgarh

18. Consider the following statements regarding the sex ratio of Rajasthan (Census 2011):
I. The overall sex ratio of the state is 928 females per 1000 males.
II. The rural sex ratio (933) is higher than the urban sex ratio (914).
III. The child sex ratio (0-6 years) is significantly higher than the overall sex ratio.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Only I and II
(B) Only II and III
(C) Only I and III
(D) I, II and III

19. What is the overall sex ratio (females per 1000 males) of Rajasthan according to the 2011 Census?
(A) 928
(B) 943
(C) 914
(D) 888

20. Which district of Rajasthan recorded the highest overall sex ratio in the 2011 Census?
(A) Banswara
(B) Rajsamand
(C) Dungarpur
(D) Pali

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ANSWERS

1. (B) 5.66 percent
Rajasthan is the largest state in India by geographical area, covering approximately ten point four one percent of the nation's total landmass. However, according to the official demographic findings of the Census 2011, the human population residing within Rajasthan constitutes approximately five point six six percent of India's total overall national population.

2. (D) 6,85,48,437
According to the final published results of the Census of India 2011, Rajasthan recorded a total human population of six crore eighty-five lakh forty-eight thousand four hundred thirty-seven. Among these total residents, male individuals numbered three crore fifty-five lakh fifty thousand nine hundred ninety-seven, while female individuals accounted for three crore twenty-nine lakh ninety-seven thousand four hundred forty.

3. (C) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
The population density of Rajasthan increased from 165 persons per square kilometer in the 2001 census to 200 persons per square kilometer in the 2011 census. Conversely, the decadal population growth rate of Rajasthan registered a decline, decreasing from 28.41 percent during 1991–2001 to 21.31 percent during 2001–2011, indicating slowing growth.

4. (C) Jaipur
Jaipur district recorded the highest absolute total population among all districts of Rajasthan in the 2011 Census, with a total count exceeding 66.26 lakh residents. It is followed by Jodhpur and Alwar districts in total population size. Jaipur functions as the administrative, commercial, and urban hub, attracting significant population concentration.

5. (A) Jaisalmer
Jaisalmer recorded the lowest absolute population among all districts in Rajasthan in the 2011 Census, with approximately 6.69 lakh residents. Located in the heart of the Thar Desert, Jaisalmer features harsh climatic conditions, hyper-arid terrain, and severe water scarcity, which collectively limit human settlement capacity and overall regional demographic growth.

6. (B) I, III, II, IV
During the 2001–2011 decade, Barmer recorded the highest population growth rate in Rajasthan at 32.5 percent, followed closely by Jaisalmer at 31.8 percent. Jodhpur registered a growth rate of 27.7 percent, whereas Banswara recorded 26.5 percent growth. Consequently, the descending order of their growth rates is Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, and Banswara.

7. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Western desert districts such as Barmer and Jaisalmer experienced significantly higher decadal population growth rates than eastern districts. This elevated growth is attributable to historically smaller population bases, elevated fertility and birth rates, lower overall female literacy levels, and delayed demographic transition across these remote arid regions relative to eastern Rajasthan.

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(C) 200 persons per sq. km
The overall population density of Rajasthan was recorded at 200 persons per square kilometer in the 2011 Census, showing a notable increase from 165 persons per square kilometer in 2001. Population density measures human settlement concentration across the state's total land area, which remains lower than India's national average density.

9. (D) Jaisalmer, Bikaner, and Barmer
In the 2011 Census, only three districts in Rajasthan recorded a population density under 100 persons per square kilometer. Jaisalmer had the lowest density at 17 persons per square kilometer, Bikaner recorded 78 persons per square kilometer, and Barmer recorded 92 persons per square kilometer, owing to harsh Thar desert geography.

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(A) 75.1 percent
(B) 68.8 percent
(C) 80.5 percent
(D) 82.3 percent

30. Which of the following is NOT recognized as a standard stage in the Theory of Demographic Transition?
(A) High stationary stage (High birth rate and high death rate)
(B) Early expanding stage (High birth rate and declining death rate)
(C) Reverse expanding stage (Low birth rate and high death rate)
(D) Late expanding stage (Declining birth rate and low death rate)

31. Based on recent decades of birth and death rate trends, Rajasthan is currently transitioning through which stage of the Demographic Transition model?
(A) First stage (High birth rate, high death rate)
(B) Second stage (High birth rate, sharply falling death rate)
(C) Third stage (Declining birth rate, low death rate)
(D) Fourth stage (Low birth rate, low death rate leading to stationary population)

32. Consider the following statements regarding the Scheduled Caste (SC) population of Rajasthan (Census 2011):
I. The SC population constitutes approximately 17.8 percent of the total population of the state.
II. Ganganagar district has the highest proportion (percentage) of SC population.
III. Dungarpur district has the lowest proportion (percentage) of SC population.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?
(A) Only I
(B) Only II and III
(C) Only III
(D) None of the statements is incorrect

33. What is the proportion of the Scheduled Caste (SC) population in Rajasthan as per the 2011 Census?
(A) 13.5 percent
(B) 17.8 percent
(C) 15.2 percent
(D) 21.1 percent

34. Match List I with List II regarding the Scheduled Tribe (ST) population percentage in Rajasthan (Census 2011):
List I: District
P. Banswara
Q. Dungarpur
R. Pratapgarh
S. Udaipur
List II: ST Population Percentage
1. 76.4%
2. 70.8%
3. 63.4%
4. 49.7%
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4

35. Which district in Rajasthan has the highest percentage of Scheduled Tribe (ST) population relative to its total population?
(A) Banswara
(B) Udaipur
(C) Dungarpur
(D) Pratapgarh

36. Which district has the lowest percentage of Scheduled Caste (SC) population in Rajasthan?
(A) Banswara
(B) Barmer
(C) Dungarpur
(D) Udaipur

37. Which two districts of Rajasthan recorded the lowest absolute Scheduled Tribe (ST) population (and proportion at 0.3%) in the 2011 Census?
(A) Bikaner and Nagaur
(B) Churu and Hanumangarh
(C) Jodhpur and Jaisalmer
(D) Sikar and Jhunjhunu

38. Consider the following statements regarding the religious composition of Rajasthan's population (Census 2011):
I. The Hindu population constitutes the largest religious group at approximately 88.5 percent.
II. The Muslim population is the second largest religious group at approximately 9.1 percent.
III. The Sikh population constitutes approximately 1.3 percent of the total population.
IV. The Jain population constitutes less than 1 percent of the total population.

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Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II, III and IV only
(C) I, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

39. Among the major religious communities in Rajasthan, which community recorded the highest literacy rate according to the 2011 Census?
(A) Hindus
(B) Jains
(C) Muslims
(D) Sikhs

40. From the perspective of resource planning in Rajasthan, which of the following represents the most critical challenge posed by the current population distribution and growth?
(A) Surplus arable land causing widespread agricultural under-utilization in rural areas.
(B) Excessive concentration of advanced high-tech industrial plants within small villages.
(C) Acute stress on limited freshwater resources throughout the western arid regions.
(D) Severe long-term shortage of skilled working-age population across major districts.

41. In demographic studies, what does the term 'Total Fertility Rate' (TFR) represent?
(A) The crude annual count of live births recorded per thousand individuals in a designated target population.
(B) The statistical proportion comparing annual live births directly against the entire female demographic group.
(C) The net quantitative difference calculated between the crude annual birth rate and the overall death rate.
(D) The average total number of children a woman would bear during her full reproductive lifetime.

42. According to the recent National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), what is the approximate Total Fertility Rate (TFR) achieved by Rajasthan?
(A) 2.0
(B) 2.6
(C) 3.1
(D) 3.5

43. Which district in Rajasthan recorded the highest male literacy rate in the 2011 Census?
(A) Kota
(B) Jhunjhunu
(C) Jaipur
(D) Sikar

44. Consider the following districts of Rajasthan:
I. Jalore
II. Sirohi
III. Jaisalmer
IV. Barmer
Which of the following represents the correct ascending order of their female literacy rates (Census 2011)?
(A) I, II, III, IV
(B) II, I, IV, III
(C) I, III, II, IV
(D) I, II, IV, III

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45. What is the child sex ratio (0-6 years) in Rajasthan according to the 2011 Census?
(A) 888
(B) 928
(C) 914
(D) 837

46. Which district of Rajasthan has the lowest child sex ratio (0-6 years) according to the 2011 Census?
(A) Sikar
(B) Dholpur
(C) Jhunjhunu
(D) Bharatpur

47. Which of the following is the primary objective of state family welfare programs linked to population control?
(A) Rapidly eliminating infectious diseases across urban and rural communities nationwide.
(B) Accelerating rural-to-urban migration flows to ensure a steady industrial workforce.
(C) Lowering average population life expectancy to maintain a favorable dependency ratio.
(D) Stabilizing growth by encouraging small family norms and increasing contraceptive usage.

48. Read the following statements regarding the demographic features of Rajasthan:
Assertion (A): Jaisalmer district has the lowest population density in Rajasthan.
Reason (R): Jaisalmer has a harsh arid climate, vast stretches of uninhabitable desert, and a severe scarcity of water resources.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

49. Which district of Rajasthan has the highest proportion (percentage) of urban population relative to its total population (Census 2011)?
(A) Jaipur
(B) Kota
(C) Jodhpur
(D) Ajmer

50. Which district of Rajasthan has the highest proportion (percentage) of rural population relative to its total population?
(A) Barmer
(B) Pratapgarh
(C) Banswara
(D) Dungarpur

51. Consider the following statements regarding urbanization trends in Rajasthan:
I. Urbanization has been steadily increasing over the past few decades.
II. Jaipur district has the highest absolute urban population in the state.
III. The urban decadal growth rate was lower than the rural decadal growth rate between 2001 and 2011.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Only I and II
(B) Only II and III
(C) Only I and III
(D) I, II and III

52. What was the decadal growth rate of the urban population in Rajasthan during 2001-2011?
(A) 19.0 percent
(B) 21.3 percent
(C) 29.0 percent
(D) 24.9 percent

53. Identify the correct statement regarding the historical trend of population growth in Rajasthan since 1901:
(A) The state registered negative decadal population growth strictly during 1911-1921.
(B) The total population expanded continuously across every single census decade since 1901.
(C) The all-time peak in decadal population growth was documented in the 1991-2001 census.
(D) The annual growth rate of the state population experienced a steady decline after 1951.

54. During which decade did Rajasthan record its highest historical decadal population growth rate since independence?
(A) 1961-1971
(B) 1971-1981
(C) 1981-1991
(D) 1991-2001

55. Match List I with List II regarding the decadal growth rate (2001-2011) of districts in Rajasthan:
List I: District
P. Ganganagar
Q. Jhunjhunu
R. Pali
S. Bundi
List II: Decadal Growth Rate
1. 10.0%
2. 11.7%
3. 11.9%
4. 15.4%
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

56. In the Census of India, a 'marginal worker' is defined as a person who has worked for:
(A) More than 183 days but less than 300 days in a year.
(B) Exactly 365 days but earns less than the minimum wage.
(C) Less than 183 days (6 months) in a year.
(D) Only during the agricultural harvest season for a maximum of 30 days.

57. Out of the total working population in Rajasthan, what is the approximate percentage of 'main workers' according to Census 2011?
(A) 30.2 percent
(B) 50.0 percent
(C) 85.5 percent
(D) 70.4 percent

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58. The majority of female out-migration within the rural areas of Rajasthan is primarily driven by which sociological factor?
(A) Social marriage customs requiring relocation to the spouse's village.
(B) Pursuit of advanced technical degrees and higher academic education.
(C) Securing long-term wage labor employment

formal workforce
(C) Severe lack of higher education infrastructure for adult women
(D) Sharply declining child sex ratios in identified target districts

80. Consider the following statements regarding the age structure of Rajasthan's population:
I. The population in the 0-14 age group constitutes less than 15 percent of the total population.
II. The working-age population (15-59 years) forms the majority share of the total population.
III. The elderly population (60+ years) proportion is gradually increasing due to better life expectancy.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) Only I and II
(B) Only II and III
(C) Only I and III
(D) I, II and III

81. Consider the following statements regarding migration patterns in Rajasthan:
I. Rural-to-rural migration involves the highest number of migrants, dominated by females.
II. Male migration is predominantly from rural to urban areas for employment.
III. The volume of intra-state migration is much higher than inter-state migration.
IV. Droughts act as a significant push factor for distress seasonal migration in western Rajasthan.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II, III and IV only
(C) I, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

82. Which of the following best highlights the contrast between Rajasthan's geographical area and its population size on a national scale?
(A) It accounts for approximately 5.66% of total land area while supporting 10.41% of national population.
(B) It accounts for approximately 15.0% of total land area while supporting 15.0% of national population.
(C) It accounts for approximately 2.0% of total land area while supporting 8.0% of national population.
(D) It accounts for about 10.41% of national land area while supporting about 5.66% of total population.

83. Which district in Rajasthan recorded the highest Work Participation Rate (percentage of total workers to total population) in the 2011 Census?
(A) Pratapgarh
(B) Jaipur
(C) Kota
(D) Bikaner

84. Which of the following is NOT an objective of family welfare and health schemes like the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in Rajasthan?
(A) Reduction of Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)
(B) Reduction of Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)
(C) Increasing the Crude Birth Rate to accelerate population growth
(D) Achieving universal access to equitable, affordable, and quality healthcare services

85. In standard demographics, the 'Natural Growth Rate' of a population is strictly defined as:
(A) The crude birth rate minus the crude death rate.
(B) The total decadal growth rate divided by ten.
(C) The sum of the birth rate and in-migration rate.
(D) The difference between in-migration and out-migration.

86. During which historical decade did the population of Rajasthan (and India broadly) record a negative growth rate primarily due to famines and the influenza epidemic?
(A) 1901-1911
(B) 1911-1921
(C) 1941-1951
(D) 1961-1971

87. Which of the following districts of Rajasthan is completely landlocked (no interstate or international border) but still exhibits a relatively high population density (above 400)?
(A) Jaisalmer
(B) Dausa
(C) Bikaner
(D) Jhalawar

88. Identify the INCORRECT statement regarding the historical trajectory of the sex ratio in Rajasthan:
(A) The sex ratio has historically remained

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70. Which district of Rajasthan boasts the highest child sex ratio (0-6 years) according to the 2011 Census?
(A) Dungarpur
(B) Pratapgarh
(C) Udaipur
(D) Banswara

71. In order for Rajasthan to optimally harness its demographic dividend, which condition is fundamentally required alongside a favorable age structure?
(A) Maintaining elevated infant mortality rates to effectively control overall population growth state-wide.
(B) Strategic investments in high-quality education, technical skill development, and job creation.
(C) Encouraging massive out-migration of educated working youth to industrially advanced states.
(D) Sustaining a continuous long-term increase in total fertility rates across all regions.

72. Which of the following is the primary long-term demographic target of Rajasthan's Population Policy?
(A) Halving the total population within twenty years
(B) Mandating a strictly one-child policy statewide
(C) Achieving replacement level fertility (TFR of 2.1)
(D) Eradicating all rural settlements by pushing urban migration

73. Read the following statements regarding interstate migration patterns:
Assertion (A): There is a significant male-dominated out-migration from Rajasthan to other industrially developed states.
Reason (R): Better economic opportunities, higher wages, and industrial employment are concentrated in states like Gujarat and Maharashtra compared to rural Rajasthan.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

74. How many cities (urban agglomerations) in Rajasthan had a population exceeding 1 million (10 lakh) as per the 2011 Census?
(A) 1
(B) 2
(C) 3
(D) 5

75. Which district in Rajasthan crossed the 6 million (60 lakh) population mark in the 2011 Census, making it the most populous district?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Jaipur
(C) Alwar
(D) Nagaur

76. Which of the following districts has a total population of less than 1 million (10 lakh) as per the 2011 Census?
(A) Jaisalmer
(B) Sirohi
(C) Pratapgarh
(D) All of the above

77. The literacy rate among the Scheduled Tribe (ST) population in Rajasthan (Census 2011) is approximately:
(A) 52.8 percent
(B) 34.5 percent
(C) 66.1 percent
(D) 72.4 percent

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78. Match List I with List II comparing Rajasthan's population indicators with the national average (Census 2011):
List I: Population Indicator
P. Overall Sex Ratio (928 vs 943)
Q. Decadal Growth Rate (21.3 vs 17.7)
R. Child Sex Ratio (888 vs 919)
S. Literacy Rate (66.1 vs 73)
List II: Comparison with National Average
1. Higher than National Average
2. Lower than National Average
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-2, S-2
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-1, S-1
(C) P-2, Q-2, R-1, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-1, R-2, S-2

79. The 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' scheme in Rajasthan specifically targeted which demographic issue initially?
(A) Unusually high maternal mortality rates during childbirth
(B) Persistently low female participation in the

on large agricultural farms.
(D) Official administrative postings and government employment transfers.

59. Which of the following is considered a 'Push Factor' rather than a 'Pull Factor' for out-migration from rural regions of Rajasthan?
(A) Better employment opportunities in urban industrial zones
(B) Recurrent droughts and lack of agricultural income
(C) Improved health and educational infrastructure in cities
(D) Higher standard of living and modern amenities in destination areas

60. The 'Dependency Ratio' of a population is calculated by measuring the ratio of:
(A) The total number of economically active working females relative to the total male workforce.
(B) The non-working age population (0-14 and 60+) relative to working-age population (15-59).
(C) The total number of unemployed adult individuals relative to active gainful workers.
(D) The agrarian rural population relative to the urban population engaged in services.

61. Consider the following statements regarding demographic data highlights of Rajasthan:
I. The overall literacy rate stands at 66.1%.
II. The child sex ratio declined from 909 in 2001 to 888 in 2011.
III. The urban sex ratio is lower than the rural sex ratio.
IV. Jaisalmer recorded the lowest literacy rate in the state.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II
(B) II and III
(C) Only IV
(D) Only III

62. What is the exact difference between the male and female literacy rates in Rajasthan as recorded in the 2011 Census?
(A) 21.3 percentage points
(B) 24.8 percentage points
(C) 27.1 percentage points
(D) 32.5 percentage points

63. Identify the incorrect pair regarding the religious composition percentage in Rajasthan (Census 2011):
(A) Hindu - 88.49%
(B) Muslim - 9.07%
(C) Sikh - 1.27%
(D) Jain - 5.12%

64. Apart from Jaipur, which other district in Rajasthan has a population density exceeding 500 persons per square kilometer?
(A) Alwar
(B) Dausa
(C) Bharatpur
(D) Dholpur

65. Which of the following districts recorded the lowest decadal population growth rate (2001-2011) in Rajasthan?
(A) Jhunjhunu
(B) Ganganagar
(C) Pali
(D) Bundi

66. Select the correct sequence of districts from lowest to highest population density in Rajasthan (Census 2011):
(A) Jaisalmer, Barmer, Bikaner, Churu
(B) Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Barmer, Churu
(C) Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur
(D) Barmer, Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Jodhpur

67. The life expectancy at birth in Rajasthan has improved significantly over the decades. As of recent general estimates (SRS data for 2015-19), the overall life expectancy at birth for Rajasthan is approximately:
(A) 68.7 years
(B) 55.4 years
(C) 62.1 years
(D) 74.2 years

68. What is the rural sex ratio of Rajasthan as per Census 2011?
(A) 914
(B) 928
(C) 933
(D) 943

69. What is the urban sex ratio of Rajasthan as per Census 2011?
(A) 914
(B) 888
(C) 928
(D) 933

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unfavorable to women (below 1000).
(B) The overall sex ratio improved slightly from 922 in 2001 to 928 in 2011.
(C) The child sex ratio improved from 909 in 2001 to 933 in 2011.
(D) Rural areas have consistently maintained a better sex ratio than urban areas.

89. Over the last two decades, what has been the primary trend of the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in Rajasthan?
(A) It experienced a sharp, sustained increase caused by rapid unregulated urbanization.
(B) It remained virtually constant with zero measurable structural change over time.
(C) It dropped briefly during early years but is currently doubling every annual cycle.
(D) It showed a steady decline driven by better institutional deliveries and healthcare.

90. The 'working-age population' is generally defined by the Census of India and demographic authorities as persons falling in the age group of:
(A) 15-59 years
(B) 18-65 years
(C) 21-60 years
(D) 15-45 years

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21. The term 'Demographic Dividend' in the context of Rajasthan's population refers to:
(A) The economic growth potential arising from a shift in age structure when the working-age population exceeds dependents.
(B) The direct financial benefits and welfare incentives distributed by state authorities to encourage population control.
(C) The revenue expansion resulting from a rapid absolute population increase that broadens the local tax base over time.
(D) The structural demographic transition occurring when a major share of rural population migrates into urban centers.

22. Consider the following statements regarding the working population of Rajasthan (Census 2011):
I. The Work Participation Rate of the state is approximately 43.6 percent.
II. Main workers are defined as those who have worked for 183 days or more in the reference year.
III. Marginal workers have worked for less than 6 months in the reference year.
IV. Cultivators and agricultural laborers form the largest segment of the state's workforce.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) II, III and IV only
(C) I, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

23. What is identified as the primary reason for out-migration of males from the rural areas of Rajasthan?
(A) Advanced higher education and specialized technical training
(B) Gainful employment and economic livelihood opportunities
(C) Matrimonial alliances and social kinship obligations
(D) Regional political instability and civil governance conflicts

24. Within the internal migration streams in Rajasthan, which stream accounts for the highest volume of migrants?
(A) Rural to Urban
(B) Urban to Urban
(C) Rural to Rural
(D) Urban to Rural

25. Identify the incorrect statement comparing Rajasthan's population indicators with the national average (Census 2011):
(A) The decadal growth rate of Rajasthan (21.3%) was higher than the national average (17.7%).
(B) The population density of Rajasthan (200) is significantly lower than the national average (382).
(C) The overall literacy rate of Rajasthan (66.1%) is lower than the national average (73.0%).
(D) The overall sex ratio of Rajasthan (928) is higher than the national average (943).

26. In which year was the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' (BBBP) scheme launched at the national level, which significantly targeted several districts of Rajasthan due to their low child sex ratio?
(A) 2012
(B) 2014
(C) 2015
(D) 2018

27. Under the 'Mukhyamantri Rajshree Yojana' implemented in Rajasthan, financial assistance is provided to encourage the birth and education of girls. What is the maximum total financial assistance provided per girl child under this scheme?
(A) ₹ 21,000
(B) ₹ 50,000
(C) ₹ 30,000
(D) ₹ 1,00,000

28. Read the following statements regarding literacy in Rajasthan:
Assertion (A): The female literacy rate in Rajasthan remains substantially lower than the male literacy rate.
Reason (R): Deep-rooted patriarchal norms, early marriages, and higher domestic labor burdens historically hindered female education in the state.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

29. According to Census 2011, what percentage of Rajasthan's total population resides in rural areas?

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10. (A) The ratio of total population to total area, measured per square kilometer.
Population density represents a standard demographic metric calculated by dividing the total population living within a specified geographical region by the total land area of that region, usually expressed as persons per square kilometer. This calculation enables urban planners and policymakers to assess spatial population distribution, human concentration, and land resource allocation.

11. (B) Jaipur
Jaipur district has the highest population density in Rajasthan according to the 2011 Census, with 595 persons per square kilometer. High urbanization, industrial development, administrative status, superior educational institutions, and healthcare infrastructure contribute significantly to drawing dense human settlements to Jaipur compared to other eastern plains districts like Bharatpur and Dausa.

12. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
According to the 2011 Census figures for population density across Rajasthan's eastern districts, Jaipur holds the top position with 595 persons per square kilometer, followed by Bharatpur at 503, Dausa at 476, and Alwar at 438 persons per square kilometer. Matching these precise demographic statistics establishes the correct structural alignment.

13. (A) 66.1 percent
The overall literacy rate of Rajasthan was recorded at 66.1 percent in the 2011 Census, marking an increase from 60.4 percent in the 2001 Census. While male literacy reached 79.2 percent, female literacy remained comparatively low at 52.1 percent, placing Rajasthan's overall literacy rate below the national average of 73.0 percent.

14. (C) 27.1 percent
As per Census 2011, Rajasthan recorded a male literacy rate of 79.2 percent and a female literacy rate of 52.1 percent. The resulting gender gap in literacy stands at approximately 27.1 percentage points, which is one of the highest literacy gender disparities observed across all Indian states during that survey period.

15. (A) Kota, Jaipur, Jhunjhunu, Sikar
In the 2011 Census, Kota recorded the highest overall literacy rate among all districts in Rajasthan at 76.6 percent. Jaipur followed second with 75.5 percent, Jhunjhunu held third place with 74.1 percent, and Sikar ranked fourth with 71.9 percent, establishing the correct descending order of overall literacy across these districts.

16. (C) Lowest Female Literacy - Jalore
According to the 2011 Census, Jalore recorded the lowest female literacy rate in Rajasthan at 38.5 percent. Conversely, Kota recorded the highest overall literacy and highest female literacy (65.9 percent), while Jhunjhunu recorded the highest male literacy (86.9 percent) and Pratapgarh/ Banswara recorded the lowest male literacy levels in the state.

17. (B) Dholpur
In Census 2011, Dungarpur (994), Rajsamand (990), and Pratapgarh (983) were among the southern districts of Rajasthan displaying exceptionally high overall sex ratios. Conversely, Dholpur recorded the lowest overall sex ratio in the entire state at only 846 females per 1000 males, making it distinct from the high-ratio district group.

18. (A) Only I and II
In the 2011 Census, Rajasthan's overall sex ratio was 928 females per 1000 males, and its rural sex ratio (933) exceeded its urban sex ratio (914). However, the child sex ratio (0–6 years) dropped significantly to 888, which is markedly lower than the overall sex ratio, contradicting the third claim.

19. (A) 928
According to the 2011 Census, Rajasthan recorded an overall sex ratio of 928 females per 1000 males. This represented an improvement from 922 recorded in 2001. Nevertheless, Rajasthan's overall sex ratio remained below the national sex ratio average of 943 females per 1000 males during the same 2011 census period.

20. (C) Dungarpur
Dungarpur district recorded the highest overall sex ratio in Rajasthan during the 2011 Census, with 994 females per 1000 males. Rajsamand ranked second with 990, Pali third with 987, and Pratapgarh fourth with 983 females per 1000 males, reflecting relatively better gender

across her childbearing years (typically ages 15 to 49) if she experienced current age-specific fertility rates throughout her reproductive lifespan. It measures population fertility trends and future replacement expectations.

42. (A) 2.0
According to the National Family Health Survey 5 (NFHS-5) conducted between 2019 and 2021, Rajasthan achieved a Total Fertility Rate of 2.0. This milestone indicates that Rajasthan has reached replacement-level fertility (2.1 or below), marking significant demographic progress in fertility reduction relative to previous NFHS survey round statistics.

43. (B) Jhunjhunu
Jhunjhunu district recorded the highest male literacy rate in Rajasthan in the 2011 Census, standing at 86.9 percent. Located in the Shekhawati region, Jhunjhunu boasts a strong social emphasis on education and recruitment in armed forces and public services, elevating male educational attainment above Kota (86.3%) and Jaipur districts.

44. (A) I, II, III, IV
In Census 2011, female literacy rates across these southern and western districts reached: Jalore at 38.5 percent (lowest in Rajasthan), Sirohi at 39.7 percent, Jaisalmer at 39.7 percent (slightly above Sirohi in decimals), and Barmer at 40.6 percent, confirming the ascending order from lowest to highest literacy.

45. (A) 888
The child sex ratio (0–6 years age group) in Rajasthan was recorded at 888 females per 1000 males in the 2011 Census. This marked a severe decline from 909 registered in the 2001 Census, highlighting gender imbalances driven by female foeticide and preference for male children in past recent decades.

46. (C) Jhunjhunu
In the 2011 Census, Jhunjhunu district recorded the lowest child sex ratio (0–6 years) in Rajasthan, with only 837 girls per 1000 boys. Sikar followed with 848 girls per 1000 boys. This severe imbalance prompted targeted social interventions and strict monitoring under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign statewide.

47. (D) Stabilizing growth by encouraging small family norms and increasing contraceptive usage.
Family welfare programs in Rajasthan focus primarily on achieving population stabilization by encouraging small family norms, promoting reproductive health services, enhancing maternal and child care, and increasing access to quality voluntary contraceptive services to reduce total fertility rates and unwanted pregnancies across urban and rural demographic sectors statewide.

48. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Jaisalmer district has the lowest population density in Rajasthan, with only 17 persons per square kilometer. This extremely sparse human settlement pattern is directly caused by physical geography, including vast shifting sand dunes, hyper-arid climate, extreme temperatures, and severe scarcity of drinking and irrigation water resources across the Thar region.

49. (B) Kota
Kota district recorded the highest proportion of urban population relative to its total population in Rajasthan as per Census 2011, standing at 60.3 percent. Major educational institutions, coaching industries, industrial corridors, and urban infrastructure make Kota the most urbanized district by percentage, surpassing Jaipur (52.4%) and Ajmer (40.1%) districts.

50. (D) Dungarpur
Dungarpur district recorded the highest proportion of rural population relative to its total population in Rajasthan during Census 2011, with 93.6 percent of its inhabitants residing in rural areas. It is closely followed by Barmer (92.6%) and Banswara (92.9%), reflecting minimal urban growth across these southern tribal regional districts.

51. (A) Only I and II
Urbanization in Rajasthan has shown a steady upward trend over successive census decades, with Jaipur district housing the largest absolute urban population in the state (over 34.7 lakh). However, between 2001 and 2011, the urban decadal growth rate (29.0%) was higher than the rural decadal growth rate (19.0%) state-wide.

52. (C) 29.0 percent
During the 2001–2011 decade, the urban population in Rajasthan grew at a rate of 29.0

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31. (C) Third stage (Declining birth rate, low death rate)
Rajasthan has progressed into the third stage (Late Expanding stage) of the Demographic Transition Model. In this phase, death rates have fallen significantly and stabilized at low levels due to healthcare improvements, while birth rates and total fertility rates show steady ongoing declines towards replacement level fertility state-wide.

32. (D) None of the statements is incorrect
As per Census 2011, Scheduled Castes constitute 17.8 percent (1.22 crore) of Rajasthan's total population. Ganganagar district records the highest SC proportion relative to its total population at 36.6 percent, while Dungarpur district records the lowest SC proportion at 3.8 percent. Thus, all three statements are fully factual and correct.

33. (B) 17.8 percent
According to Census 2011, the Scheduled Caste population in Rajasthan totals 1,22,21,593 individuals, representing 17.83 percent of the state's total human population. The SC population is geographically widely distributed across all districts, with its highest demographic concentration found in northern districts such as Ganganagar and Hanumangarh districts.

34. (A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
According to Census 2011, southern districts of Rajasthan possess the highest Scheduled Tribe population percentages relative to total population. Banswara leads with 76.4 percent, Dungarpur follows with 70.8 percent, Pratapgarh holds 63.4 percent, and Udaipur records 49.7 percent, establishing the matching numerical order across these southern tribal belt districts.

35. (A) Banswara
Banswara district has the highest proportion of Scheduled Tribe population relative to its total population in Rajasthan as per Census 2011, standing at 76.4 percent. The tribal population in Banswara primarily comprises Bhil communities. Dungarpur (70.8%), Pratapgarh (63.4%), and Udaipur (49.7%) follow Banswara in tribal population proportion state-wide.

36. (C) Dungarpur
Dungarpur district recorded the lowest percentage of Scheduled Caste population relative to its total district population in Rajasthan according to Census 2011, at approximately 3.8 percent. Dungarpur is predominantly inhabited by Scheduled Tribe communities, which account for over 70.8 percent of its total population, resulting in low SC demographic proportions.

37. (A) Bikaner and Nagaur
In Census 2011, Bikaner and Nagaur districts recorded the lowest Scheduled Tribe population proportions in Rajasthan, both standing at approximately 0.3 percent of their total district populations. Absolute ST numbers in these desert and semi-arid central-northern districts remain under ten thousand, contrasted with high concentrations in southern tribal districts.

38. (D) I, II, III and IV
As per Census 2011 religious demographic statistics for Rajasthan, Hindus constitute the largest group at 88.49 percent, followed by Muslims at 9.07 percent. Sikhs comprise 1.27 percent, located mainly in northern agricultural districts, while Jains constitute 0.91 percent (less than 1 percent) of the total state population.

39. (B) Jains
According to Census 2011 data, the Jain community recorded the highest literacy rate among all major religious communities in Rajasthan, exceeding 93 percent overall literacy. Their literacy rate significantly surpasses state average literacy (66.1%) and the literacy rates recorded for Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, and other religious groups statewide in Rajasthan.

40. (C) Acute stress on limited freshwater resources throughout the western arid regions.
Rajasthan holds over ten percent of India's geographical area but less than one percent of the nation's surface water resources. Rapid population growth and high demographic concentration across arid and semi-arid western districts place intense structural strain on scarce groundwater and surface freshwater resources, creating a major developmental planning challenge.

41. (D) The average total number of children a woman would bear during her full reproductive lifetime.
Total Fertility Rate represents a crucial demographic indicator defined as the average number of live children a woman would bear

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63. (D) Jain - 5.12%
In Census 2011, religious proportions in Rajasthan were recorded as follows: Hindus at 88.49 percent, Muslims at 9.07 percent, Sikhs at 1.27 percent, and Jains at 0.91 percent. Listing the Jain population share at 5.12 percent is incorrect, as Jains account for less than one percent statewide in Rajasthan.

64. (C) Bharatpur
In Census 2011, only two districts in Rajasthan recorded a population density exceeding 500 persons per square kilometer: Jaipur with 595 persons per square kilometer and Bharatpur with 503 persons per square kilometer. Dausa (476) and Alwar (438) recorded high densities, but remained below the 500 benchmark threshold level.

65. (B) Ganganagar
Ganganagar district recorded the lowest decadal population growth rate in Rajasthan during 2001–2011, at 10.0 percent. Jhunjhunu ranked second lowest with 11.7 percent, and Pali ranked third lowest with 11.9 percent growth. High literacy and extensive agricultural development contributed to lower birth rates in Ganganagar district.

66. (B) Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Barmer, Churu
Ranking Rajasthan's lowest population density districts from lowest to highest based on 2011 Census data gives: Jaisalmer at 17 persons per square kilometer, Bikaner at 78 persons per square kilometer, Barmer at 92 persons per square kilometer, and Churu at 147 persons per square kilometer, confirming the correct statistical sequence.

67. (A) 68.7 years
According to Sample Registration System (SRS) analytical data compiled for 2015–2019, life expectancy at birth in Rajasthan reached approximately 68.7 years overall. Male life expectancy stood at around 66.3 years, while female life expectancy reached 71.2 years, showing steady improvement over preceding decades due to medical and healthcare advances.

68. (C) 933
In Census 2011, the rural sex ratio of Rajasthan was recorded at 933 females per 1000 males, which marked an improvement from 930 registered in 2001. The rural sex ratio remains higher than the state's urban sex ratio (914) and overall sex ratio (928), reflecting better rural gender balance overall.

69. (A) 914
In Census 2011, the urban sex ratio of Rajasthan was recorded at 914 females per 1000 males, showing an increase from 890 recorded in the 2001 Census. Urban sex ratios tend to be lower than rural sex ratios (933) due to male-dominated rural-to-urban labor migration into municipal urban centers statewide.

70. (D) Banswara
Banswara district recorded the highest child sex ratio (0–6 years) in Rajasthan during the 2011 Census, standing at 934 girls per 1000 boys. Pratapgarh ranked second with 933, Dungarpur third with 922, and Udaipur fourth with 920 girls per 1000 boys, highlighting better gender ratios in southern tribal state regions.

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71. (B) Strategic investments in high-quality education, technical skill development, and job creation.
To fully capitalize on the demographic dividend, a large working-age population must be complemented by strategic social investments in quality primary and higher education, vocational technical skill development, and robust employment generation. Without sufficient human capital development and productive jobs, the demographic dividend cannot yield substantial national economic expansion.

72. (C) Achieving replacement level fertility (TFR of 2.1)
Rajasthan's Population Policy aims to stabilize population growth by reaching replacement-level fertility, defined as a Total Fertility Rate of 2.1 children per woman. Reaching this target ensures long-term population stabilization, lowers youth dependency ratios, and reduces environmental and public resource pressure across all urban and rural state regions.

73. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Inter-state migration from Rajasthan is characterized by substantial male out-migration directed toward industrially developed states like Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Delhi. This movement is driven by economic factors: workers relocate to secure higher industrial wages, formal

percent, rising from 1.32 crore in 2001 to 1.70 crore in 2011. This urban expansion exceeded the rural decadal growth rate of 19.0 percent and overall state growth rate of 21.3 percent during 2011.

53. (A) The state registered negative decadal population growth strictly during 1911-1921.
In the demographic history of Rajasthan since 1901, the decade 1911–1921 was the only period that registered a negative decadal population growth rate (-6.29 percent). Severe famines, food shortages, and the widespread Spanish influenza epidemic caused high mortality rates across Rajasthan and broader India during that historical decade.

54. (B) 1971-1981
Rajasthan recorded its highest historical decadal population growth rate since Indian independence during the 1971–1981 decade, reaching 32.97 percent. High fertility rates, declining mortality rates due to expanded healthcare interventions, and improved living conditions contributed to this peak demographic growth period before growth rates gradually declined in subsequent decades.

55. (A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
During the 2001–2011 census decade, Ganganagar recorded the lowest decadal population growth rate in Rajasthan at 10.0 percent. Jhunjhunu recorded 11.7 percent, Pali recorded 11.9 percent, and Bundi recorded 15.4 percent. Matching these specific district growth percentages establishes the correct alignment across these four specified Rajasthan state districts.

56. (C) Less than 183 days (6 months) in a year.
In the Census of India demographic classification, a marginal worker is defined as a person who engaged in economically productive work for less than 183 days, or six months, during the reference year preceding enumeration. Individuals working 183 days or more are categorized as main primary workers.

57. (D) 70.4 percent
According to Census 2011, out of Rajasthan's total working population of approximately 2.99 crore individuals, main workers constitute 70.4 percent (about 2.10 crore). Marginal workers account for the remaining 29.6 percent of the state's total labor workforce, engaging in seasonal, temporary, or short-term gainful productive economic employment activities statewide.

58. (A) Social marriage customs requiring relocation to the spouse's village.
In rural Rajasthan, female out-migration is overwhelmingly driven by socio-cultural marriage traditions. Exogamous marriage practices mandate that a bride relocate post-marriage to her husband's household located in another village or town. Consequently, marriage accounts for over 80 percent of all female migration flows within rural regional state areas.

59. (B) Recurrent droughts and lack of agricultural income
Push factors represent negative conditions that compel people to leave their origin, whereas pull factors attract individuals to new destinations. In rural Rajasthan, recurrent droughts, water scarcity, crop failures, and insufficient agricultural income serve as classic push factors, driving rural workers to migrate outward to urban industrial employment centers.

60. (B) The non-working age population (0-14 and 60+) relative to working-age population (15-59).
The dependency ratio is a key demographic metric calculated by dividing the economically dependent population—comprising children under 15 years and elderly adults aged 60 years and above—by the working-age population aged 15 to 59 years, expressed as a percentage. It measures economic burden borne by active productive workers.

61. (C) Only IV
Census 2011 confirms that overall literacy is 66.1 percent, child sex ratio declined to 888, and urban sex ratio (914) is lower than rural sex ratio (933). However, Jalore—not Jaisalmer—recorded the lowest overall literacy rate in Rajasthan at 54.9 percent, making the fourth statement demographically incorrect.

62. (C) 27.1 percentage points
According to Census 2011, Rajasthan's male literacy rate was 79.19 percent while its female literacy rate was 52.12 percent. Subtracting female literacy from male literacy yields an exact gap of 27.07 percentage points (rounded to 27.1 percentage points), representing a major gender disparity in educational attainment statewide in Rajasthan.

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proportions in southern tribal-dominated regional state populations.

21. (A) The economic growth potential arising from a shift in age structure when the working-age population exceeds dependents.
Demographic dividend denotes the accelerated economic growth potential realized when a region experiences a shift in its population age structure. This occurs when the proportion of the working-age population (15 to 59 years) exceeds that of dependent age groups (children under 15 and elderly above 60), lowering dependency ratios significantly.

22. (D) I, II, III and IV
Census 2011 figures confirm Rajasthan's Work Participation Rate at 43.6 percent. Main workers are defined as those working 183 days or more annually, whereas marginal workers work less than 183 days. Furthermore, primary agrarian activities involving cultivators and agricultural workers comprise the vast majority of Rajasthan's total labor workforce.

23. (B) Gainful employment and economic livelihood opportunities
Male migration out of rural Rajasthan is predominantly driven by economic push and pull factors. Scarcity of local non-farm employment, recurrent environmental droughts, unstable agricultural yields, and low wage rates compel adult males to relocate to urban industrial centers within and outside Rajasthan seeking stable livelihoods and higher wages.

24. (C) Rural to Rural
In demographic census streams across India, rural-to-rural migration forms the largest overall volume of internal population movement within Rajasthan. This dominant migration stream is largely driven by traditional socio-cultural marriage practices, where women relocate post-marriage between rural settlements, combined with seasonal agricultural labor movement across adjoining rural agrarian economic sectors.

25. (D) The overall sex ratio of Rajasthan (928) is higher than the national average (943).
In Census 2011, Rajasthan recorded an overall sex ratio of 928 females per 1000 males, which was lower than India's national average of 943 females per 1000 males. Other indicators matched national patterns: Rajasthan's growth rate was higher (21.3% vs 17.7%), density lower (200 vs 382), and literacy lower (66.1% vs 73.0%).

26. (C) 2015
The national 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' scheme was officially launched by the Government of India in January 2015 at Panipat, Haryana. It targeted critical districts across India, including low child sex ratio districts in Rajasthan like Jhunjhunu and Sikar, to curb sex-selective elimination and promote female child education statewide.

27. (B) ₹ 50,000
Mukhyamantri Rajshree Yojana was launched in Rajasthan in June 2016 to encourage girl child birth and support female education. Under this state initiative, total financial assistance of up to 50,000 rupees is provided in six scheduled installments from the birth of a girl child until she completes class twelve education.

28. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
In Rajasthan, female literacy (52.1%) lags far behind male literacy (79.2%). This persistent gap is directly caused by deeply entrenched patriarchal gender norms, early marriage practices, historical restrictions on female mobility, inadequate school infrastructure in rural areas, and heavy domestic work expectations assigned to young female school-age children.

29. (A) 75.1 percent
According to Census 2011, approximately 75.1 percent of Rajasthan's total population resides in rural areas, comprising about 5.15 crore people. In contrast, the urban population accounts for 24.9 percent (1.70 crore). This underlines Rajasthan's overwhelmingly agrarian and rural demographic character compared to other highly urbanized Indian states statewide.

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30. (C) Reverse expanding stage (Low birth rate and high death rate)
The Demographic Transition Theory classic framework comprises four standard sequential stages: High Stationary (high birth and high death rates), Early Expanding (high birth rate and declining death rate), Late Expanding (declining birth rate and low death rate), and Low Stationary (low birth and low death rates). Reverse expanding stage does not exist.

employment, and better economic opportunities unavailable in rural, agrarian Rajasthan regional sectors.

74. (C) 3
As per Census 2011, exactly three cities or urban agglomerations in Rajasthan recorded a population exceeding one million (10 lakh residents). These three million-plus urban centers are Jaipur (30.73 lakh), Jodhpur (10.33 lakh), and Kota (10.01 lakh), which represent the major metropolitan population hubs of the state overall.

75. (B) Jaipur
Jaipur district surpassed the 6 million population mark in the 2011 Census, recording a total population of 66,26,178 residents. This made Jaipur the most populous district in Rajasthan by a significant margin, followed by Jodhpur district (36,87,165 residents) and Alwar district (36,74,179 residents) in total district population size.

76. (D) All of the above
In Census 2011, Jaisalmer (6.69 lakh) and Pratapgarh (8.67 lakh) recorded populations below 10 lakh, while Sirohi (10.36 lakh) is among the state's smallest districts by population. These low-population districts exhibit low demographic counts due to arid desert geography, hilly terrain, and limited industrial urbanization state-wide overall.

77. (A) 52.8 percent
In the 2011 Census, the overall literacy rate among the Scheduled Tribe population in Rajasthan was recorded at 52.8 percent. Male ST literacy stood at 67.8 percent, whereas female ST literacy remained significantly lower at 37.3 percent, highlighting persistent educational challenges within tribal regional districts of Rajasthan.

78. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-2, S-2
Comparing Rajasthan's 2011 Census metrics with national averages reveals that Rajasthan's decadal growth rate (21.3%) was higher than the national average (17.7%). Conversely, Rajasthan's overall sex ratio (928 vs 943), child sex ratio (888 vs 919), and literacy rate (66.1% vs 73.0%) were all lower than national averages nationwide.

79. (D) Sharply declining child sex ratios in identified target districts
The Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign was launched to address the alarming decline in child sex ratios (0–6 years) across designated districts, including several in Rajasthan like Jhunjhunu and Sikar. The scheme focuses on preventing sex-selective elimination, ensuring survival and protection of female children, and encouraging girl child education statewide.

80. (B) Only II and III
In Rajasthan's demographic structure, children in the 0–14 age group constitute approximately 30 percent of the total population, making statement I false. The working-age population (15–59 years) constitutes the majority share at around 60 percent, while the elderly population (60+ years) is steadily expanding due to improving life expectancy statewide.

81. (D) I, II, III and IV
Migration patterns in Rajasthan show high rural-to-rural marriage migration dominated by females, while male migration is driven by urban employment. Intra-state migration exceeds inter-state migration volume. Additionally, recurrent environmental droughts act as major push factors driving distress seasonal migration from western arid districts to other agricultural regional destinations.

82. (D) It accounts for about 10.41% of national land area while supporting about 5.66% of total population.
Rajasthan is India's largest state by area, covering 3,42,239 square kilometers, which represents 10.41 percent of India's total geographical territory. However, according to Census 2011, Rajasthan houses 6.85 crore residents, constituting only 5.66 percent of India's total national population, highlighting a lower demographic density relative to land area.

83. (A) Pratapgarh
In the 2011 Census, Pratapgarh district recorded the highest Work Participation Rate in Rajasthan at 55.5 percent. High participation of tribal communities in primary agricultural and labor activities, coupled with high female worker involvement in tribal rural economies, contributes to Pratapgarh leading all districts in overall workforce participation rate.

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84. (C) Increasing the Crude Birth Rate to accelerate population growth
The National Health Mission (NHM) and state family welfare schemes aim to improve healthcare outcomes by reducing Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR), ensuring universal access to quality healthcare, and stabilizing population growth. Increasing crude birth rates contradicts health policy objectives of population control and health stabilization.

85. (A) The crude birth rate minus the crude death rate.
In demographic analysis, the Natural Growth Rate of a population measures population growth resulting purely from biological reproduction. It is calculated as the crude birth rate minus the crude death rate during a specified year, excluding population changes resulting from net migration inflows or outflows across administrative regional boundaries.

86. (B) 1911-1921
The 1911–1921 decade is known in Indian demography as the Great Divide. During this decade, Rajasthan recorded a negative population growth rate of -6.29 percent due to the catastrophic 1918 influenza pandemic, severe famines, widespread food shortages, and acute healthcare deficiencies, marking the only negative growth decade since 1901.

87. (B) Dausa
Dausa district is completely landlocked within Rajasthan, sharing no international or interstate border. Despite its landlocked status, Dausa recorded a high population density of 476 persons per square kilometer in Census 2011, making it the third most densely populated district in the state after Jaipur (595) and Bharatpur (503) districts.

88. (C) The child sex ratio improved from 909 in 2001 to 933 in 2011.
In Rajasthan, the child sex ratio (0–6 years) experienced a alarming decline from 909 females per 1000 males in Census 2001 down to 888 females per 1000 males in Census 2011. Claiming that the child sex ratio improved to 933 is demographically false, making this statement factually incorrect statewide.

89. (D) It showed a steady decline driven by better institutional deliveries and healthcare.
Infant Mortality Rate in Rajasthan has experienced a steady and continuous decline over recent decades. This positive health trend is driven by expanded institutional deliveries, improved newborn healthcare under government initiatives, widespread immunization programs, better maternal nutrition, and strengthened rural health infrastructure under the National Health Mission statewide.

90. (A) 15-59 years
In standard Census demographic definitions, the potential working-age population is officially defined as individuals belonging to the age cohort of 15 to 59 years. This demographic group comprises people who are economically active and capable, excluding young dependents under 15 years and elderly dependents aged 60 years and older statewide.

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CHAPTER 19
Major Tribes of Rajasthan

1. Which tribe constitutes the largest percentage of the Scheduled Tribe (ST) population in Rajasthan according to the 2011 Census?
(A) Bhil
(B) Meena
(C) Garasia
(D) Sahariya

2. Select the correct descending order of the major tribes in Rajasthan based on their total population size:
(A) Meena, Bhil, Garasia, Sahariya
(B) Bhil, Meena, Sahariya, Garasia
(C) Meena, Bhil, Sahariya, Garasia
(D) Bhil, Meena, Garasia, Sahariya

3. Under which Article of the Constitution of India are the Scheduled Tribes of Rajasthan officially notified?
(A) Article 342
(B) Article 341
(C) Article 338
(D) Article 330

4. In which geographical region of Rajasthan is the Bhil tribe predominantly concentrated?
(A) Hadoti region
(B) Shekhawati region
(C) Mewar region (Vagad and Bomat)
(D) Marwar region

5. Which of the following districts does NOT fall under the core Bhil population area in Rajasthan?
(A) Churu
(B) Banswara
(C) Dungarpur
(D) Udaipur

6. The shifting agriculture historically practiced by the Bhil tribe in the hilly terrain of Southern Rajasthan is locally known as:
(A) Dajia
(B) Valra
(C) Jhuming
(D) Chimata

7. The traditional headman of a large Bhil village or a cluster of villages (Pal) is called:
(A) Patel
(B) Gameti
(C) Kotwal
(D) Mukhi

8. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Historically, the Bhil economy was heavily dependent on minor forest produce and hunting-gathering.
Reason (R): Bhils traditionally inhabited the dense forest and hilly tracts of the Aravalli range which restricted settled plain agriculture.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

9. What does the term 'Faire-Faire' represent in the context of the Bhil tribe?
(A) A traditional folk dance performed during harvest festivals
(B) A traditional marriage ritual performed by village elders
(C) A local deity worshipped during major agricultural cycles
(D) A traditional war cry used to gather members during danger

10. The traditional sacred symbol or plant/animal worshipped by the Bhil community as a protective ancestor is called:
(A) Totam
(B) Khedapat
(C) Bhomiya
(D) Bheruji

11. The Meena tribe population is most heavily concentrated in which geographical zone of Rajasthan?
(A) Southern and South-Eastern

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(B) Eastern and North-Eastern
(C) Western and North-Western
(D) South-Western and Central

12. Consider the following statements regarding the Meena tribe:
I. They trace their mythological origin to Lord Matsya, an incarnation of Vishnu.
II. Magan Sagar Ji Maharaj compiled the 'Matsya Purana' related to their history.
III. Historically, they were broadly divided into Zamindar Meena and Chowkidar Meena.
Which combination is correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

13. The traditional macro-level community council of the Meena tribe, historically holding significant social authority, is known as:
(A) Chaurasi Panchayat
(B) Pal
(C) Phala
(D) Batai

14. What is 'Obari' in a traditional Meena household?
(A) A sacred indoor space dedicated to family deities
(B) A traditional wooden weapon used for hunting wild animals
(C) A clay and cow dung structure used for storing grains
(D) A ceremonial silk dress traditionally worn by the bride

15. Which of the following deities is traditionally worshipped as the primary local deity (Ishtadev) by the Meena community in the Shekhawati region?
(A) Kaila Devi
(B) Chauth Mata
(C) Karni Mata
(D) Jeen Mata

16. In contemporary times, the primary occupation of the majority of the Meena population in Rajasthan is:
(A) Traditional hunting and forest gathering
(B) Handloom weaving and handicraft production
(C) Agriculture and animal husbandry
(D) Manual mining and quarry labour work

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17. Match List I with List II to select the correct answer using the options given below:
List I: (Tribe)
P. Sahariya
Q. Garasia
R. Damor
S. Kathodi
List II: (District)
1. Dungarpur
2. Baran
3. Udaipur
4. Sirohi
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(B) P-2, Q-3, R-1, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-1, Q-4, R-2, S-3

18. The specific type of shifting cultivation practiced by the Garasia tribe is known as:
(A) Chimata
(B) Dajia
(C) Penda
(D) Valra

19. Which lake in Rajasthan is considered highly sacred by the Garasia tribe, serving as the site where they immerse the ashes of their ancestors?
(A) Nakki Lake
(B) Pushkar Lake
(C) Pichola Lake
(D) Ana Sagar Lake

20. Consider the following statements about the Garasia tribe:
I. They are predominantly found in the Abu Road and Pindwara tehsils of Sirohi district.
II. 'Helru' is their traditional cooperative institution for agricultural and social activities.
III. Mor-Bandhiya is considered a highly respected form of traditional marriage among them.
IV. They strictly prohibit widow remarriage within their community.
Which combination of statements is incorrect?
(A) I and II only
(B) III and IV only
(C) IV only
(D) II and III only

21. The traditional village headman of the Garasia tribe is known by which of the following titles?
(A) Sahrot
(B) Gameti

(C) Mukhi
(D) Patel

22. The Sahariya tribe in Rajasthan is primarily concentrated in which two tehsils?
(A) Anta and Mangrol
(B) Chhabra and Atru
(C) Chipabarod and Kishanganj
(D) Shahbad and Kishanganj

23. Which is the only tribe in Rajasthan formally recognized by the Government of India as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)?
(A) Kathodi tribe
(B) Sahariya tribe
(C) Damor tribe
(D) Garasia tribe

24. Who among the following historical figures is revered as the Aadi Guru (prime ancestor and deity) by the Sahariya tribe?
(A) Guru Jambheshwar
(B) Gogaji
(C) Valmiki
(D) Tejaji

25. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Sahariya tribe culturally avoids begging and traditionally does not practice the dowry system.
Reason (R): They are classified as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) due to their high literacy and advanced economic status.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

26. The Damor tribe primarily resides in the Simalwara Panchayat Samiti region of which district?
(A) Dungarpur
(B) Banswara
(C) Pratapgarh
(D) Udaipur

27. Identify a unique cultural characteristic of the Damor tribe among the following:
(A) They predominantly practice slash-and-burn agriculture in modern times.
(B) The men wear jewellery in a manner similar to women.
(C) They traditionally live in floating houses on lakes.
(D) They strictly prohibit the use of musical instruments during festivals.

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28. The traditional headman or leader of the Damor tribe is called:
(A) Kotwal
(B) Mukhi
(C) Gameti
(D) Patel

29. What is the historical traditional occupation of the Kathodi tribe in Rajasthan?
(A) Making Katha from the bark of Khair trees
(B) Extracting wild honey and wax from deep forest trees
(C) Weaving intricate bamboo baskets and household mats
(D) Mining and cutting semi-precious stones from quarries

30. Which of the following statements regarding the Kathodi tribe is incorrect?
(A) They originally migrated to Rajasthan from Maharashtra.
(B) The women of this tribe traditionally wear a Marathi style saree called 'Phadka'.
(C) They are currently the most populous tribal group in Rajasthan.
(D) Historically, milk and milk products are rarely consumed by them.

31. Consider the following statements about the Kathodi tribe's social structure and geography:
I. The leader or headman of their settlement is called 'Nayak'.
II. Their traditional huts, made of grass and leaves, are known as 'Kholra'.
III. They mostly reside in the Kotra, Jhadol, and Sarada tehsils of Udaipur district.
Which combination is correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

32. The 'Dapa' custom prevalent among the Bhil tribe refers to:
(A) The dowry paid by the bride's father to the groom's family.
(B) A large community feast organized after marriage.

ANSWERS

1. (B) Meena
According to the 2011 Census, the Meena tribe constitutes the largest portion of the Scheduled Tribe population in Rajasthan, accounting for nearly half of the state's total tribal demographic. They are predominantly concentrated in the eastern and north-eastern districts, exhibiting higher socio-economic development and literacy rates compared to other tribal communities in the region.

2. (A) Meena, Bhil, Garasia, Sahariya
Demographic data from official census reports indicates that the Meena community represents the largest tribal population in Rajasthan, followed closely by the Bhil community as the second largest. The Garasia tribe forms the third largest group, mainly residing in southwestern regions, while the Sahariya tribe ranks fourth, primarily inhabiting specific areas in the eastern district of Baran.

3. (A) Article 342
Article 342 of the Constitution of India empowers the President to specify the tribes or tribal communities deemed as Scheduled Tribes in relation to a state or union territory. Inclusion under this constitutional article grants tribal populations specific legal recognitions, statutory protections, reservations, and targeted socio-economic development benefits designed to safeguard their distinct rights and identity.

4. (C) Mewar region (Vagad and Bomat)
The Bhil tribe in Rajasthan is heavily concentrated in the southern hilly terrain comprising the Mewar, Vagad, and Bomat regions, encompassing districts like Udaipur, Banswara, Dungarpur, and Pratapgarh. This geographical terrain has historically shaped their social culture, economic reliance on forest resources, defensive settlement structures, and traditional practices suited to the hilly Aravalli landscape.

5. (A) Churu
Churu is located in the arid desert zone of northern Rajasthan, characterized by a extremely sparse Scheduled Tribe population. In contrast, the core geographical habitat of the Bhil tribe lies in the southern districts of Rajasthan, including Banswara, Dungarpur, Udaipur, and Pratapgarh, where dense hilly forests historically supported their traditional lifestyle, social structures, and economic activities.

6. (D) Chimata
In the traditional socio-economic practices of the Bhil community in Rajasthan, shifting slash-and-burn agriculture practiced specifically on steep hilly slopes is designated as Chimata. When similar agricultural clearing practices are conducted on flatter plains or gentle slopes, the farming technique is locally termed Valra or Dajia, reflecting distinct topographical adaptions within tribal farming terminology.

7. (B) Gameti
The traditional chief or headman of a large Bhil village or a territorial cluster of settlements known as Pal holds the revered title of Gameti. The Gameti exercises substantial administrative authority, resolves inter-family land and social disputes, preserves customary tribal laws, and leads the community during cultural ceremonies, religious festivals, and communal gatherings.

8. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The traditional Bhil economy relied predominantly on hunting, gathering, and minor forest produce due to their long-standing habitation in the dense, rugged forests of the Aravalli range. The difficult topography and thick forested environment naturally restricted extensive settled plain agriculture, making direct extraction of forest resources their primary sustainable livelihood and giving a logical explanation for their economic structure.

9. (D) A traditional war cry used to gather members during danger
In the cultural traditions of the Bhil tribe, Faire-Faire serves as an emergency war cry or call to arms. Historically, when a village faced external threats, wild animal attacks, or urgent security crises, shouting this distinct call alerted neighboring hamlets, mobilizing adult

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(C) A sacred puberty initiation rite performed for young males
(D) A traditional community harvest festival seeking a good monsoon

44. In Rajasthan, the Modified Area Development Approach (MADA) blocks are constituted for tribal development in areas where the total population is at least 10,000 and the tribal population is at least:
(A) 25%
(B) 50%
(C) 75%
(D) 100%

45. Consider the following statements about the Tribal Area Development Programme (TADP):
I. It operates primarily in districts with a high concentration of tribal population.
II. It receives Special Central Assistance (SCA) to supplement state efforts.
III. It focuses solely on large-scale industrialization in tribal areas.
IV. It aims to bridge the gap in infrastructure and human development indices.
Which combination is correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

46. The specific "Sahariya Development Project" is implemented to uplift the Sahariya community primarily in which district?
(A) Sirohi
(B) Banswara
(C) Baran
(D) Udaipur

47. What is the core objective of the 'Anuprati Yojana' implemented by the government for tribal youth?
(A) Providing subsidized agricultural tools and high-yield seeds to tribal farmers
(B) Providing supplementary nutritional kits and healthcare assistance to pregnant women
(C) Providing long-term housing loans at zero interest rate for home construction
(D) Financial assistance for competitive examination preparation

48. The Tribal Research and Training Institute (TRTI) of Rajasthan, the nodal agency for tribal research, is located in:
(A) Jaipur
(B) Banswara
(C) Udaipur
(D) Dungarpur

49. In which year was the Tribal Research Institute (TRI) established in Rajasthan to preserve tribal culture and conduct socio-economic evaluation?
(A) 1954
(B) 1964
(C) 1974
(D) 1984

50. Which of the following is NOT a primary function of the Tribal Research Institute of Rajasthan?
(A) Conducting socio-economic evaluation studies of tribal schemes.
(B) Preserving tribal arts, culture, and dialects through documentation.
(C) Providing training to administrative personnel working in tribal areas.
(D) Issuing legal Scheduled Tribe caste certificates to citizens.

51. Under the Tribal Area Development Programme, the 'MADA Clusters' require a minimum total population of 5000 with what required percentage of ST population?
(A) 30%
(B) 40%
(C) 50%
(D) 60%

52. The funding pattern for Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) run under the tribal welfare schemes is currently borne by:
(A) 100% funding borne directly by the State Government
(B) Shared in a 50:50 ratio between the Center and State
(C) 100% by the Central Government
(D) Shared in a 60:40 ratio between the Center and State

53. A government scheme focusing on integrated dairy development in tribal areas is primarily aiming at which outcome?
(A) Enhancing livelihood opportunities and nutritional levels
(B) Increasing commercial forest plantation cover in remote hilly tracts
(C) Reducing industrial pollution and environmental degradation in TSP areas
(D) Promoting traditional slash-and-burn

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(C) The bride price paid by the groom's side to the bride's father.
(D) The compulsory remarriage of a widow to her deceased husband's brother.

33. What does the term 'Nata Pratha' denote in the tribal societies of Rajasthan?
(A) A traditional practice of solemnizing child marriage on Akha Teej
(B) Living with a new partner without formal marriage rites
(C) A ceremonial ritual performed on the tenth day after childbirth
(D) A post-demise custom where the entire village abstains from food

34. 'Aata-Sata' is a common traditional term in rural and tribal Rajasthan that refers to:
(A) A polygamous custom where a man marries multiple biological sisters
(B) A vibrant traditional dance performed collectively during weddings
(C) The equitable distribution of ancestral agricultural land among sons
(D) Exchange marriage between two families

35. What is 'Chheda Fadna' among the Bhil and Meena tribes?
(A) A traditional and symbolic method of divorce.
(B) A ritual indicating the successful harvest of crops.
(C) A method to cure diseases using specific forest herbs.
(D) A type of ceremonial dress presented to the village head.

36. Which tribal fair is widely known as the "Kumbh of Tribals" in Rajasthan?
(A) Pushkar Fair
(B) Sita Bari Fair
(C) Baneshwar Fair
(D) Ramdevra Fair

37. The Baneshwar Fair is held annually at the sacred confluence of which three rivers?
(A) Mahi, Som, and Jakham
(B) Banas, Chambal, and Seep
(C) Luni, Sukri, and Jawai
(D) Sabarmati, Wakal, and Sei

38. Match List I with List II to select the correct answer using the options given below:
List I: (Tribal Fair)
P. Sita Bari Fair
Q. Ghotia Amba Fair
R. Gyarasi Ki Rewari Fair
S. Mankharo Melo
List II: (Associated Tribe or Region)
1. Garasia
2. Damor
3. Bhil
4. Sahariya
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1

39. The famous 'Gavari' dance-drama is traditionally performed by the Bhils for 40 days in the months of Shravan and Bhadrapada to worship:
(A) Lord Vishnu
(B) Lord Shiva
(C) Folk deity Tejaji
(D) Folk deity Pabuji

40. In the social organization of a Bhil settlement, a small cluster of households or a hamlet is called:
(A) Pal
(B) Gameti
(C) Phala
(D) Dhani

41. Among the Sahariya tribe, the central open space or structure in their settlement where community meetings take place is known as:
(A) Kholra
(B) Gher
(C) Tapra
(D) Hathai

42. Arrange the following socio-political administrative units of the Bhil tribe in increasing order of their physical and demographic size (smallest to largest):
1. Pal
2. Tapra
3. Phala
(A) 2, 3, 1
(B) 3, 2, 1
(C) 1, 3, 2
(D) 2, 1, 3

43. What does the ritual 'Dhari Sanskar' denote in the Sahariya tribe?
(A) The formal naming ceremony performed after the birth of a child
(B) Predicting rebirth by examining ashes after cremation

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(B) Rohida
(C) Salar
(D) Mahua

64. Minor Forest Produce (MFP) constitutes a significant part of tribal livelihood rights. By legal definition, what does MFP officially exclude?
(A) Bamboo
(B) Honey
(C) Timber
(D) Gum and Resins

65. The 'Kali Bai Bheel Medhavi Chhatra Scooty Yojana' is primarily aimed at:
(A) Providing emergency free transport services to pregnant tribal women
(B) Distributing free scooters to meritorious girl students
(C) Providing mobility vehicles for tribal female healthcare workers in rural areas
(D) Supplying subsidized electric scooters to tribal families below the poverty line

66. Arrange the following tribal education initiatives in their general developmental hierarchy, from primary/foundational focus to higher secondary/ excellence focus:
1. Maa-Badi Centres
2. Ashram Hostels
3. Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)
(A) 1, 2, 3
(B) 3, 2, 1
(C) 2, 1, 3
(D) 1, 3, 2

67. The 'Maa-Badi Yojana' in Rajasthan is operated primarily for:
(A) Providing primary education and nutrition in tribal hamlets
(B) Providing comprehensive maternal health check-ups and safe institutional delivery services
(C) Establishing community old age welfare homes for destitute tribal women in rural regions
(D) Providing maternity leave financial benefits to unorganized tribal sector workers

68. Consider the following statements regarding tribal education and welfare initiatives:
I. EMRS (Eklavya Schools) provide free quality education to ST students from class 6 to 12.
II. Ashram hostels provide free boarding and lodging facilities for ST students.
III. Pre-matric and Post-matric scholarships for ST students have been entirely discontinued in TSP areas.
IV. Maa-Badi centres focus on early education to tackle high dropout rates in tribal pockets.
Which combination represents the correct statements?
(A) I and II only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) III and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

69. Which specific genetic blood disorder is highly prevalent among the tribal population of Southern Rajasthan, prompting targeted government health screening programs?
(A) Sickle Cell Anemia
(B) Hemophilia disorder
(C) Thalassemia disease
(D) Leukemia condition

70. Under rural health initiatives, what is the primary role of a 'Swasthya Margdarshak' or community health worker in tribal areas?
(A) Performing complex surgical procedures and emergency medical operations in primary health centers
(B) Distributing legal land titles and agricultural ownership documents to tribal families
(C) Serving as primary educational tutors and classroom instructors in tribal schools
(D) Linking the community with health facilities and institutional deliveries

71. What is the fundamental objective of extending comprehensive health insurance schemes (like the Chiranjeevi model) to tribal households?
(A) Providing free monthly food grains and essential rations to every enrolled family
(B) Providing health coverage to reduce out-of-pocket medical expenses
(C) Eradicating vector-borne seasonal diseases exclusively in notified TSP areas
(D) Building specialized multi-specialty government tribal hospitals in every block

72. The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act was enacted by the Parliament in which year?
(A) 1980
(B) 1996
(C) 2006

shifting cultivation practices

54. Which Schedule of the Indian Constitution deals specifically with the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes in states like Rajasthan?
(A) Third Schedule
(B) Fifth Schedule
(C) Sixth Schedule
(D) Ninth Schedule

55. Consider the following statements about the Constitutional provisions for tribes in Rajasthan:
I. The Governor is empowered to make regulations for the peace and good government of Scheduled Areas.
II. A Tribes Advisory Council (TAC) must be established in the State to advise on tribal welfare.
III. The Sixth Schedule applies simultaneously with the Fifth Schedule in Rajasthan.
Which combination is correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

56. What is the maximum number of members permitted in a Tribes Advisory Council (TAC) established under the Fifth Schedule?
(A) 10
(B) 15
(C) 20
(D) 25

57. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Governor of Rajasthan is constitutionally mandated to submit an annual report to the President regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas.
Reason (R): The Tribes Advisory Council (TAC) in Rajasthan consists of a maximum of 20 members.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

58. How many districts of Rajasthan have their entire geographical area fully included in the Scheduled Area (TSP Area)?
(A) 2
(B) 3
(C) 5
(D) 8

59. Identify the correct set of districts that are FULLY covered under the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) area of Rajasthan.
(A) Udaipur, Rajsamand, Chittorgarh
(B) Banswara, Dungarpur, Pratapgarh
(C) Sirohi, Pali, Jalore
(D) Baran, Kota, Jhalawar

60. Which of the following districts does NOT have any geographical area notified under the TSP (Scheduled Area) in Rajasthan?
(A) Udaipur
(B) Ajmer
(C) Sirohi
(D) Pali

61. Match List I with List II to select the correct answer using the options given below:
List I: (Tribal Demography Characteristic)
P. Highest ST Population (Absolute Numbers)
Q. Highest ST Population (Percentage of district population)
R. Lowest ST Population (Absolute Numbers)
S. Sahariya Concentration
List II: (District)
1. Bikaner
2. Baran
3. Udaipur
4. Banswara
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

62. The collection of 'Tendu leaves' by tribal communities is an important livelihood source primarily associated with which local industry?
(A) Paper and pulp manufacturing industry
(B) Herbal medicine extraction industry
(C) Bidi rolling industry
(D) Textile dyeing and printing industry

63. The flowers of which tree are traditionally fermented by the Bhil and Garasia tribes to brew local indigenous liquor?
(A) Khejri

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83. Which deity is highly revered as the spiritual protector of lands and villages by the tribal communities across Southern Rajasthan?
(A) Bhomiya Ji
(B) Karni Mata
(C) Shakambhari Mata
(D) Mallinath Ji

84. 'Rikhabdeo Ji' (affectionately called Kalaji), whose saffron offering is considered highly sacred by the Bhils, is a famous temple located in:
(A) Banswara
(B) Dungarpur
(C) Dhulev
(D) Nathdwara

85. Match List I with List II to select the correct answer using the options given below:
List I: (Tribal Custom/Term)
P. Nata
Q. Dapa
R. Chheda Fadna
S. Jhugra
List II: (Meaning)
1. Bride Price
2. Widow remarriage / socially living together
3. Traditional dance
4. Divorce
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

86. 'Kodia Devi' is traditionally worshipped as the patron deity (Kuldevi) by which tribal community?
(A) Garasia tribe
(B) Kathodi tribe
(C) Meena community
(D) Sahariya

87. The phenomenon of 'seasonal migration' among the tribal population of Southern Rajasthan is primarily driven by:
(A) The growing desire to pursue modern higher education in major urban cities
(B) Fragmented landholdings and lack of year-round local employment
(C) Mandatory long-distance annual religious pilgrimages directed by elders
(D) State-sponsored cultural exchange and heritage exposure programs

88. Consider the following contemporary challenges faced by tribal communities in Rajasthan:
I. High incidence of sickle cell anemia and malnutrition.
II. Risk of land alienation despite protective state tenancy laws.
III. Complete and permanent eradication of poverty due to TSP funding.
IV. Displacement and loss of livelihood caused by major irrigation and mining projects.
Which combination represents the realistic challenges?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

89. The Rajasthan Tenancy Act, 1955 provides special socio-economic protection to Scheduled Tribes specifically regarding:
(A) Blanket exemption from paying electricity bills for commercial activities.
(B) Guaranteed government jobs in urban administrative centers.
(C) Free public transport in state buses across India.
(D) Prohibition of transfer or sale of tribal agricultural land to non-tribals.

90. In resolving the contemporary conflict between strict forest conservation laws and tribal livelihood rights, which of the following statutory mechanisms provides the most direct reconciliatory role?
(A) Granting Community Forest Rights (CFR) under the Forest Rights Act 2006.
(B) Evicting tribals to create completely inviolate Tiger Reserves without rehabilitation.
(C) Converting all dense forest land into private revenue land.
(D) Banning the collection of all Minor Forest Produce by tribal communities.

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(D) 2013

73. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Under the Forest Rights Act 2006, non-tribal traditional forest dwellers are completely excluded from claiming any forest rights.
Reason (R): The Act requires Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (OTFD) to prove continuous residence in the forest for at least three generations (75 years) prior to December 2005.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

74. Under the Forest Rights Act 2006, which body is the designated primary authority to initiate the process for determining the nature and extent of forest rights?
(A) The Gram Sabha
(B) The State Forest Department
(C) The District Collector
(D) The Tribal Welfare Ministry

75. Select the correct increasing order of general literacy rates among the following major tribes in Rajasthan (from lowest to highest, based on historical census data):
(A) Sahariya, Bhil, Meena
(B) Meena, Bhil, Sahariya
(C) Bhil, Sahariya, Meena
(D) Meena, Sahariya, Bhil

76. Which tribe in Rajasthan is recognized demographically for historically maintaining a very high sex ratio (females per 1000 males), often exceeding the state average?
(A) Meena
(B) Bhil
(C) Garasia
(D) Sahariya

77. In terms of economic classification and integration, which tribe is primarily considered a settled agriculturalist community and holds a significant share of government employment compared to others?
(A) Meena
(B) Bhil
(C) Sahariya
(D) Kathodi

78. Consider the following characteristics of tribal groups in Rajasthan:
I. Meenas constitute the most populous ST group in the state.
II. Sahariyas are classified under the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG).
III. Kathodis are native exclusively to the sandy tracts of the Thar Desert.
Which combination of statements is correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

79. The tradition of 'Gudna' (Tattooing) is highly prevalent among tribal women of Rajasthan primarily due to what traditional belief?
(A) It protects them from wild animals in the deep forest.
(B) It indicates their exact rank and voting power in the tribal council.
(C) It is a mandatory requirement imposed by local kings for tax exemption.
(D) It acts as a permanent ornament that goes with them even after death.

80. 'Tir-Kaman' (Bow and Arrow) making is a traditional craft prominently associated with which tribal group due to their historical martial and hunting background?
(A) Meena
(B) Sahariya
(C) Bhil
(D) Damor

81. The terracotta horses (Votive horses) offered to local deities by the Bhil and Garasia tribes for fulfillment of wishes are locally known as:
(A) Ghora Bapji
(B) Mama Dev ke Ghode
(C) Pabuji ke Ghode
(D) Ramdevji ke Ghode

82. The traditional heavy silver ornament known as 'Hansli' is worn by tribal women on which part of the body?
(A) Ankle
(B) Wrist
(C) Forehead
(D) Neck

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community members to assemble rapidly at a designated point with their traditional weapons.

10. (A) Totam
The Bhil community practices totemism, wherein specific clans venerate sacred plants, animals, or natural symbols known as Totam. Each clan lineage associates itself with a designated Totam, treating it with immense religious reverence, strictly prohibiting any harm or destruction to the symbol, and treating it as a protective ancestral guardian during social rituals and clan gatherings.

11. (B) Eastern and North-Eastern
The Meena tribe in Rajasthan is primarily concentrated in the eastern and north-eastern districts, including Jaipur, Dausa, Sawai Madhopur, Karauli, Alwar, and Bharatpur. This geographic distribution is historically linked to fertile alluvial plains and major trade corridors, where the community transitioned into settled agriculture, landownership, and active administrative participation over many centuries.

12. (D) I, II and III
The Meena community traces its traditional mythology to Lord Matsya, the fish incarnation of Lord Vishnu. Saint Magan Sagar Ji compiled their genealogical history and cultural traditions in the scripture known as Matsya Purana. Historically, the socio-economic structure of the tribe was broadly categorized into agrarian landowners known as Zamindar Meenas and village security guards termed Chowkidar Meenas.

13. (A) Chaurasi Panchayat
The Chaurasi Panchayat represents the traditional apex decision-making council of the Meena community, historically covering eighty-four territorial units or village divisions. Operating as a supreme social court, this macro-level assembly addresses major community disputes, enforces traditional ethical norms, deliberates on matrimonial matters, and formulates social reforms binding upon the entire regional tribal population.

14. (C) A clay and cow dung structure used for storing grains
In a traditional Meena dwelling, an Obari refers to a specialized indigenous storage vessel constructed from a mixture of clay, mud, cow dung, and plant fibers. Designed to preserve agricultural harvests against humidity and pests, these eco-friendly structures hold food grains securely inside rural homes, reflecting traditional architectural techniques and domestic grain management practices.

15. (D) Jeen Mata
Jeen Mata, whose primary ancient shrine is situated in Sikar district, is venerated as the principal tutelary deity or Ishtadev by the Meena community in the Shekhawati region. Devotees visit the shrine during annual fairs, offering prayers and seeking blessings for prosperity, health, family welfare, and protection against agricultural and personal misfortunes.

16. (C) Agriculture and animal husbandry
Over historical generations, the Meena tribe transitioned from forest dwelling into settled agrarian communities. In contemporary times, the overwhelming majority of the Meena population relies on settled agriculture, crop cultivation, and associated animal husbandry as their primary livelihood, complemented significantly by high participation in public administration, educational sectors, and civil services across India.

17. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
The major tribal communities in Rajasthan show distinct geographic concentration zones across specific districts. The Sahariya tribe resides almost exclusively in Baran district, whereas the Garasia tribe is concentrated in Sirohi. Meanwhile, the Damor tribe is predominantly found in Simalwara of Dungarpur district, and the Kathodi tribe mainly inhabits the forested tehsils of Udaipur district.

18. (D) Valra
Valra is the traditional slash-and-burn shifting cultivation historically practiced by tribal communities, including the Garasia tribe in the southwestern Aravalli hills of Rajasthan. This method involves clearing forest patches, burning vegetation to enrich soil nutrients with ash, and cultivating crops for a short duration before shifting to new forested terrain to restore fertility naturally.

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19. (A) Nakki Lake
Nakki Lake, located in Mount Abu within Sirohi district, holds profound sacred significance for the Garasia tribe. Members of this community regard the lake as a holy water body where they perform final funeral rites, immersing the ashes and mortal remains of their deceased ancestors during special spiritual rituals and annual tribal gatherings held along its shores.

20. (C) IV only
The Garasia tribe is concentrated around Abu Road and Pindwara in Sirohi district. They maintain a cooperative socio-economic work system called Helru and celebrate traditional formal marriages like Mor-Bandhiya. However, their social norms are progressive regarding marital choices, permits cohabitation, and allows widow remarriage freely without institutional prohibition, making statements against widow remarriage incorrect.

21. (A) Sahrot
In the social hierarchy and governance structure of the Garasia tribe, the designated leader or village headman is called Sahrot. The Sahrot plays an essential administrative and dispute-resolution role, managing local community affairs, upholding custom rules, coordinating public religious functions, and representing the village during interactions with external authorities or neighboring tribal groups.

22. (D) Shahbad and Kishanganj
The Sahariya tribe exhibits extreme geographical isolation within Rajasthan, residing almost entirely in Baran district. Within this district, their population is heavily clustered inside two specific administrative divisions, namely Shahbad and Kishanganj tehsils. These forested, hilly areas contain traditional Sahariya hamlets, shaping their localized culture, social practices, economic activities, and development interventions.

23. (B) Sahariya tribe
The Sahariya tribe is the sole tribal group in Rajasthan categorized by the Union Government as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG). This classification is based on indicators such as declining or stagnant population growth, extremely low literacy rates, pre-agricultural technology usage, and severe economic backwardness, qualifying them for targeted central welfare funds and health programs.

24. (C) Valmiki
Maharishi Valmiki is revered as the Aadi Guru or supreme primary ancestor and spiritual guru by the Sahariya community. The tribe maintains deep devotional beliefs centered around Saint Valmiki, celebrating his birth anniversary with great religious enthusiasm and establishing dedicated shrines at sacred gathering spots like Sitabari in Baran district during their annual community fair.

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25. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
The Sahariya community maintains distinct cultural values that forbid begging and reject mandatory dowry practices during marriages. However, their status as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group is derived from severe socio-economic backwardness, low literacy levels, and precarious livelihoods rather than economic advancement, confirming that the stated reasoning regarding high literacy and economic prosperity is false.

26. (A) Dungarpur
The Damor tribe in Rajasthan is primarily concentrated in the southernmost district of Dungarpur, with their highest population density located in the Simalwara Panchayat Samiti. Due to close geographic proximity to Gujarat, their language, daily attire, social customs, and cultural rituals reflect significant cultural cross-influences from neighboring Gujarati agrarian and tribal communities.

27. (B) The men wear jewellery in a manner similar to women.
A distinct social and cultural tradition of the Damor tribe involves adult men wearing traditional metallic jewelry, including earrings, necklaces, and bangles, in a manner visually similar to female adornments. This unique aesthetic preference distinguishes them culturally from other tribal groups in Southern Rajasthan while reflecting historical traditions of personal ornament and body decoration.

28. (B) Mukhi
The traditional headman or village council leader within the Damor tribe is called Mukhi. The Mukhi possesses recognized socio-political authority within the village, arbitrating familial

and property conflicts, supervising traditional marriage agreements, presiding over local judicial panchayats, and organizing religious festivals, community rituals, and social gatherings across the tribal settlement.

29. (A) Making Katha from the bark of Khair trees
The Kathodi tribe derives its name from its historical occupation of extracting and processing Katha (catechu) from the wood and bark of Khair trees (Acacia catechu). Historically migrating into forested regions of Rajasthan, they specialized in the manual, labour-intensive boiling process required to refine catechu extract for medicinal and traditional commercial uses.

30. (C) They are currently the most populous tribal group in Rajasthan.
The Kathodi tribe is a small, highly endangered tribal community in Rajasthan, with a population numbered only in the few thousands, making claims of high population incorrect. Originally migrating from Maharashtra, Kathodi women traditionally drape a Marathi-style saree called Phadka, and the community historically displays distinct dietary habits including avoiding dairy consumption.

31. (D) I, II and III
The Kathodi tribe's social hierarchy is headed by a local settlement leader known as Nayak. Their traditional temporary huts, constructed using leaves, bamboo, and wild grass, are locally designated as Kholra. Geographically, the remaining population of this vulnerable community is almost exclusively concentrated in the Kotra, Jhadol, and Sarada tehsils of Udaipur district.

32. (C) The bride price paid by the groom's side to the bride's father.
The traditional custom of Dapa in Bhil social culture represents bride price, wherein the groom's family pays a mutually agreed sum of cash or cattle to the bride's father prior to marriage. This practice socio-economically compensates the bride's family for the loss of household and agricultural labor, symbolizing respect for the bride's intrinsic value.

33. (B) Living with a new partner without formal marriage rites
Nata Pratha is an established customary practice prevalent among several tribal and rural communities in Rajasthan, permitting a married woman or widow to cohabit with a new male partner without conducting formal religious marriage rituals. The new partner typically pays monetary compensation, termed Jhagra, to the former husband or family to validate the social arrangement.

34. (D) Exchange marriage between two families
Aata-Sata denotes a reciprocal exchange marriage practice traditionally followed in rural and tribal Rajasthan. Under this customary arrangement, two families enter an agreement where a daughter from one family is married to a son in the second family, in exchange for a daughter from the second family being married to a son in the first.

35. (A) A traditional and symbolic method of divorce.
Chheda Fadna represents a traditional, symbolic custom of formal divorce practiced among the Bhil and Meena communities. In this ceremony, the husband publicly tears a piece of cloth from the corner of his wife's Dupatta or saree in front of village elders, handing it to her along with a monetary token, thereby socially dissolving the marital bond.

36. (C) Baneshwar Fair
The Baneshwar Fair, celebrated annually in Dungarpur district, is widely revered as the "Kumbh of Tribals." It attracts thousands of tribal pilgrims, primarily from the Bhil community across Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh, who gather to perform holy immersions, offer prayers at the Baneshwar Shiva temple, trade goods, and participate in cultural festivities.

37. (A) Mahi, Som, and Jakham
The sacred site of the Baneshwar Fair is located at the Triveni Sangam, the geographic confluence of three major rivers: Mahi, Som, and Jakham, situated near Sabla in Dungarpur district. Devotees consider this river junction holy and congregate during Magh Purnima to immerse ancestral ashes and pay homage to Lord Shiva's broken Shivalinga.

38. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Different traditional fairs in Rajasthan are intimately linked with specific tribal groups. The Sita Bari Fair in Kelwara, Baran serves as

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(D) Barmer

22. Match the following major gypsum mining centers with their respective districts:
List I: (Mining Center)
P. Jamsar
Q. Got Manglod
R. Mohangarh
S. Kawas
List II: (District)
1. Barmer
2. Jaisalmer
3. Bikaner
4. Nagaur
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1

23. What is the highly pure, naturally occurring crystalline form of gypsum called, which is predominantly found in western Rajasthan?
(A) Alabaster
(B) Selenite
(C) Anhydrite
(D) Satin Spar

24. Rajasthan alone accounts for approximately what percentage of the total gypsum production in India?
(A) 40-45%
(B) 60-65%
(C) 80-85%
(D) 90-95%

25. Gypsum mined in Rajasthan finds its most extensive industrial application in the manufacturing of:
(A) Refractory bricks and fireclay products
(B) High-grade industrial abrasives
(C) Glassware and fine ceramic products
(D) Plaster of Paris and cement

26. The 'Sonu' area in Jaisalmer district is strategically important for the production of which specific grade of limestone?
(A) Steel (SMS) grade
(B) Chemical grade
(C) Cement grade
(D) White burning grade

27. Due to massive reserves of cement-grade limestone, which district has emerged as the most prominent hub for the cement industry in Rajasthan?
(A) Nagaur
(B) Chittorgarh
(C) Bundi
(D) Sirohi

28. Consider the following pairs of marble varieties and their primary producing districts:
I. White Marble - Makrana (Nagaur)
II. Green Marble - Udaipur
III. Black Marble - Bhainslana (Jaipur)
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

29. The renowned Makrana marble, which was utilized in the construction of the Taj Mahal and the Victoria Memorial, belongs geologically to which system?
(A) Delhi Supergroup
(B) Upper Vindhyan Supergroup formation
(C) Malani Igneous Suite sequence
(D) Marwar Supergroup rock system

30. 'Babar Mal' area in Udaipur district is specifically renowned for the extraction of which color of marble?
(A) Yellow marble
(B) Black marble
(C) Pink marble
(D) Brown marble

31. Which city in Rajasthan is commercially known as the "Marble City of India" due to its massive marble processing and trading industry?
(A) Rajsamand
(B) Makrana
(C) Udaipur
(D) Kishangarh

32. Jhamarkotra in Udaipur district is celebrated for holding India's largest workable deposit of which essential mineral?
(A) Fluorspar (Fluorite)
(B) Soapstone (Talc)
(C) Rock Phosphate
(D) Asbestos minerals

33. Identify the correct chronological sequence of the years in which the Government of Rajasthan officially released its comprehensive State Mineral Policies.
(A) 1978, 1994, 2011, 2015
(B) 1980, 1996, 2010, 2018

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Functioning under the Tribal Area Development Department, TRTI serves as the nodal state agency for conducting empirical socio-economic research, evaluating welfare schemes, documenting indigenous tribal culture and dialects, and providing capacity-building training to officials posted in tribal administrative zones.

49. (B) 1964
The Tribal Research Institute (TRI) in Rajasthan was formally established in 1964 to systematically study, document, and preserve the state's rich tribal heritage. Since its inception, the institute has carried out crucial baseline surveys, policy assessments, demographic studies, and field research to assist government departments in formulating effective tribal development plans.

50. (D) Issuing legal Scheduled Tribe caste certificates to citizens.
The Tribal Research Institute functions primarily as a academic, research, and training body focused on socio-economic evaluation, cultural documentation, and administrative training. Issuing legal Scheduled Tribe caste certificates is an administrative revenue function performed by statutory government revenue officers, such as Tehsildars and Sub-Divisional Magistrates, rather than an academic research organization.

51. (C) 50%
MADA Clusters are created under tribal development frameworks to benefit smaller contiguous habitations that fall outside standard Tribal Sub-Plan areas. A cluster requires a total population of at least 5,000 people across contiguous villages, with Scheduled Tribes comprising a minimum of 50 percent of the total demographic to ensure focused development assistance.

52. (C) 100% by the Central Government
Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) are fully funded central sector institutions established under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India. The Central Government provides 100 percent financial funding for setting up capital infrastructure, operational costs, recurring administrative expenses, and student facilities to ensure free quality education for Scheduled Tribe children.

53. (A) Enhancing livelihood opportunities and nutritional levels
Integrated dairy development schemes in tribal regions aim to build sustainable rural self-employment by assisting tribal families with cattle purchasing, veterinary care, milk collection infrastructure, and market linkage. This intervention simultaneously generates steady household income, reduces poverty, and improves family nutrition levels by introducing milk products into regular daily diets.

54. (B) Fifth Schedule
The Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India contains special legal provisions governing the administration and executive control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes in states outside the northeastern region, including Rajasthan. It confers special protective responsibilities on State Governors to make executive regulations safeguarding tribal land, culture, and governance.

55. (A) I and II only
Under the Fifth Schedule, the Governor holds regulatory power for peace and good governance in Scheduled Areas, and a mandatory Tribes Advisory Council must advise on tribal welfare. However, the Sixth Schedule applies exclusively to four northeastern states, making its simultaneous application in Rajasthan incorrect and limiting the valid statements to the first two provisions.

56. (C) 20
The Fifth Schedule of the Indian Constitution mandates that a Tribes Advisory Council (TAC) established in a state with Scheduled Areas shall consist of not more than 20 members. Furthermore, three-fourths of these members must be representative members of the Scheduled Tribes in the State Legislative Assembly, ensuring statutory democratic representation.

57. (B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
The Governor is constitutionally required under the Fifth Schedule to submit an annual report to the President regarding Scheduled Area administration. Separately, the Fifth Schedule specifies that the Tribes Advisory Council consists of up to 20 members. While both constitutional statements are individually accurate, the council composition does not serve as the logical cause for the annual reporting duty.

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58. (B) 3
In Rajasthan, exactly three southern districts have their entire geographical territory fully notified under the Scheduled Area (Tribal Sub-Plan Area). These three fully covered districts are Banswara, Dungarpur, and Pratapgarh. Other neighboring southern districts, such as Udaipur, Sirohi, Chittorgarh, Rajsamand, and Pali, have only specific tehsils or blocks designated under the TSP.

59. (B) Banswara, Dungarpur, Pratapgarh
The presidential notification for Scheduled Areas in Rajasthan places Banswara, Dungarpur, and Pratapgarh as fully covered districts within the Tribal Sub-Plan framework. Every Tehsil and Gram Panchayat in these three districts falls under TSP jurisdiction, allowing comprehensive application of tribal protection laws, preferential employment norms, and targeted budget allocations across all administrative levels.

60. (B) Ajmer
Ajmer district located in central Rajasthan contains no geographical area notified under the Scheduled Area or Tribal Sub-Plan framework. In contrast, districts like Udaipur, Sirohi, and Pali contain specific tehsils with concentrated tribal populations that are explicitly designated as scheduled TSP areas under constitutional notifications to receive targeted developmental funding.

61. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Demographic profile analysis reveals that Udaipur holds the largest absolute Scheduled Tribe population in Rajasthan, whereas Banswara has the highest ST population percentage relative to total district inhabitants. Bikaner district records the lowest absolute ST population, while Baran district represents the exclusive concentration zone for the vulnerable Sahariya tribal community.

62. (C) Bidi rolling industry
Tendu leaves (Diospyros melanoxylon) collected from forest zones serve as a vital source of seasonal Minor Forest Produce for tribal households across Southern Rajasthan. The harvested leaves are dried and sold primarily to commercial bidi rolling industries, where they are utilized as wrapper material for tobacco products, generating substantial seasonal wage employment.

63. (D) Mahua
The flowers of the Mahua tree (Madhuca longifolia) hold significant cultural and socio-economic importance among the Bhil and Garasia tribes. Rich in natural sugars, these sweet dry flowers are collected during spring and traditionally fermented to distil indigenous local liquor, which plays a central ceremonial role during tribal rituals, social gatherings, and festivals.

64. (C) Timber
Under statutory environmental and forest rights legal definitions, Minor Forest Produce encompasses all non-timber forest products of plant origin, including wild edible fruits, seeds, bamboo, honey, wax, medicinal herbs, resins, and tendu leaves. Timber harvested from large trees is classified as Major Forest Produce and is strictly excluded from MFP rights granted to tribals.

65. (B) Distributing free scooters to meritorious girl students
The Kali Bai Bheel Medhavi Chhatra Scooty Yojana is a major educational initiative implemented in Rajasthan to promote higher education among female students. Named in honor of the tribal martyr Kali Bai Bheel, the welfare scheme awards free motorized scooters to meritorious female students who achieve high academic ranks in secondary and senior secondary board examinations.

66. (A) 1, 2, 3
In the educational progression framework for tribal students, Maa-Badi Centres operate at the foundational primary level within remote hamlets. Ashram Hostels provide residential upper primary and secondary educational accommodation, while Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) represent quality secondary and higher secondary institutions designed to achieve competitive educational excellence for tribal youth.

67. (A) Providing primary education and nutrition in tribal hamlets
The Maa-Badi Scheme is operated under the Tribal Area Development Department in Rajasthan to establish informal educational centers directly inside remote tribal hamlets. These centers provide foundational primary education, basic learning materials, and daily

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nutritious mid-day meals to young tribal children, effectively curbing early dropout rates and improving baseline literacy in underserved areas.

68. (B) I, II, and IV only
Eklavya Model Residential Schools offer free quality education to tribal students in middle and high school levels, Ashram hostels offer free lodging, and Maa-Badi centers address early childhood educational gaps in remote hamlets. Pre-matric and post-matric scholarship schemes remain actively operational across tribal areas, rendering statements claiming their complete discontinuation false.

69. (A) Sickle Cell Anemia
Sickle Cell Anemia is an inherited genetic blood disorder highly prevalent among Scheduled Tribe populations in Southern Rajasthan. Characterized by abnormally shaped red blood cells that impede circulation and cause severe pain, organ damage, and chronic anemia, it has led state health authorities to establish dedicated screening camps, genetic counseling, and specialized medical care programs.

70. (D) Linking the community with health facilities and institutional deliveries
A Swasthya Margdarshak or tribal community health worker acts as an essential grassroots link between remote tribal populations and government healthcare infrastructure. They raise community health awareness, mobilize pregnant women for institutional hospital deliveries, assist in routine child immunizations, facilitate emergency medical transport, and ensure the timely delivery of rural healthcare services.

71. (B) Providing health coverage to reduce out-of-pocket medical expenses
Extending comprehensive state health insurance schemes to tribal households aims to provide universal financial protection during medical emergencies. By offering cashless hospitalization and covering major surgical and secondary treatments, these welfare policies shield vulnerable tribal families from catastrophic out-of-pocket medical expenditures that frequently force them into debt traps and extreme economic hardship.

72. (C) 2006
The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act was enacted by the Parliament of India in 2006. This landmark law recognizes and vests customary forest rights, occupation titles, and community forest resource management rights in forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes and traditional dwellers who have resided in forest lands for generations.

73. (D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.
The Forest Rights Act of 2006 does not exclude non-tribal traditional forest dwellers from claiming land rights, making claims of total exclusion false. Non-tribal claimants are statutory beneficiaries provided they satisfy the legal requirement of proving continuous residence on forest land for at least three generations, defined as 75 years, prior to December 13, 2005.

74. (A) The Gram Sabha
Under the Forest Rights Act of 2006, the Gram Sabha is designated as the primary statutory authority to initiate the process for determining the nature and extent of individual and community forest rights. It receives claims, verifies land occupation, passes preliminary resolutions, and forwards findings to sub-divisional and district-level screening committees for final title approval.

75. (A) Sahariya, Bhil, Meena
Census data highlights noticeable disparities in literacy levels across tribal groups in Rajasthan. The Sahariya tribe records the lowest literacy rate among major tribes due to extreme economic isolation and poverty. The Bhil tribe exhibits moderate literacy rates through expanding welfare access, whereas the Meena community maintains the highest literacy rate among all state tribes.

76. (B) Bhil
Demographic studies of tribal Rajasthan reveal that the Bhil tribe historically maintains a high sex ratio, frequently exceeding the overall state average. This positive demographic metric reflects balanced gender perceptions within traditional Bhil society, low incidence of female foeticide, egalitarian social customs, and practices such as bride price that assign high intrinsic socio-economic value to women.

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the main cultural gathering for the Sahariya tribe. The Ghotia Amba Fair in Banswara is celebrated by the Bhil tribe, Gyarasi Ki Rewari in Dungarpur belongs to the Damor tribe, and Mankharo Melo is associated with the Garasia tribe.

39. (B) Lord Shiva
Gavari is a famous 40-day traditional dance-drama performed exclusively by male artists of the Bhil tribe during the months of Shravan and Bhadrapada. The ritual drama centers on divine mythological themes worshipping Lord Shiva (Rai Buriya) and Goddess Parvati (Gavari Mata), with troupe members traveling across villages to present folk plays and invoke spiritual protection.

40. (C) Phala
In the spatial settlement structure of the Bhil tribe, a small hamlet or localized cluster of scattered households is designated as a Phala. Multiple Phalas organically aggregate to constitute a larger village unit known as a Pal, reflecting an open, dispersed residential layout adapted to hilly terrain and lineage-based social organization.

41. (D) Hathai
Within a Sahariya village settlement (Saharana), the central open shelter, community hall, or elevated pavilion where villagers congregate is known as Hathai or Bangla. Serving as the focal point of community life, the Hathai functions as a venue for village meetings, panchayat deliberations, festive celebrations, social interactions, and hosting traveling guests.

42. (A) 2, 3, 1
In the residential and social structure of the Bhil tribe, Tapra represents an individual dwelling house or single hut. A small neighborhood or cluster comprising several Tapras forms a Phala. Furthermore, a collection of multiple Phalas combines to form a Pal, which constitutes the largest traditional village cluster and administrative unit in their social hierarchy.

43. (B) Predicting rebirth by examining ashes after cremation
Dhari Sanskar is a unique post-cremation ritual observed by the Sahariya tribe. On the third day after a person's death, the family spreads the deceased's ashes on a flat surface overnight inside a covered area. The next morning, elders inspect marks or imprints left on the smoothed ashes to spiritually predict the form of rebirth.

44. (B) 50%
The Modified Area Development Approach (MADA) was instituted to extend tribal development benefits to pockets located outside defined Tribal Sub-Plan areas. A MADA block is demarcated in contiguous geographical areas possessing a total population of at least 10,000 persons, provided that Scheduled Tribes constitute a minimum threshold of 50 percent of that total population.

45. (B) I, II, and IV only
The Tribal Area Development Programme operates in districts with high tribal concentrations, utilizing Special Central Assistance alongside state funds to improve infrastructure and social development metrics. Rather than focusing solely on large-scale industrialization, the programme targets integrated socio-economic advancement, education, healthcare, rural connectivity, and agricultural modernization tailored to native tribal communities.

46. (C) Baran
The Sahariya Development Project is a specialized state-sponsored welfare initiative designed specifically to uplift the Sahariya community, Rajasthan's only Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group. The project is implemented primarily in Baran district, focusing on Shahbad and Kishanganj tehsils to deliver intensive healthcare, nutritional support, primary education, skill training, and sustainable livelihood programs.

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47. (D) Financial assistance for competitive examination preparation
The Anuprati Yojana is a targeted financial scheme implemented by the government to support meritorious students from Scheduled Tribes and disadvantaged backgrounds. It provides financial assistance and coaching subsidies to help candidates prepare for competitive national and state examinations, including civil services, medical, and engineering entrance tests, promoting higher educational representation.

48. (C) Udaipur
The Tribal Research and Training Institute of Rajasthan is headquartered in Udaipur city.

87. (B) Fragmented landholdings and lack of year-round local employment
Seasonal migration among tribal populations in Southern Rajasthan is primarily driven by economic necessity resulting from highly fragmented agricultural landholdings, poor irrigation infrastructure, and limited year-round local wage employment. Consequently, many tribal laborers temporarily migrate to neighboring urban industrial centers or agricultural zones in Gujarat and urban Rajasthan during non-harvest seasons to sustain family livelihoods.

88. (B) I, II, and IV only
Tribal communities in Rajasthan continue to face significant contemporary challenges, including health issues like sickle cell anemia, malnutrition, risks of agricultural land loss, and displacement caused by development or mining projects. However, claiming that poverty has been completely and permanently eradicated through welfare funding is inaccurate, as socio-economic hardship persists in many rural tribal belts.

89. (D) Prohibition of transfer or sale of tribal agricultural land to non-tribals.
The Rajasthan Tenancy Act, 1955 contains vital statutory safeguards designed to protect Scheduled Tribes against land alienation and economic exploitation. Under Section 175 and related statutory provisions of the Act, the sale, gift, transfer, or mortgage of agricultural land belonging to a Scheduled Tribe member to a non-tribal person is strictly prohibited by law.

90. (A) Granting Community Forest Rights (CFR) under the Forest Rights Act 2006.
Granting Community Forest Rights under the Forest Rights Act of 2006 effectively balances environmental conservation objectives with traditional tribal livelihood rights. By legally empowering indigenous Gram Sabhas to protect, manage, and sustainably harvest minor forest resources within local forest boundaries, this framework protects traditional rights while fostering community-led eco-conservation and sustainable forest stewardship.

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CHAPTER 20
Minerals of Rajasthan

1. Rajasthan enjoys a near-monopoly in the production of which of the following groups of minerals in India?
(A) Iron ore, Manganese, and Bauxite
(B) Lead-Zinc ores, Selenite, and Wollastonite
(C) Copper, Gold, and Silver
(D) Rock phosphate, Gypsum, and Lignite

2. What is the relative position of Rajasthan in terms of the total availability of mineral resources and value of production among Indian states?
(A) First in value, second in availability
(B) First in both availability and value
(C) Second in availability, first in value
(D) Second in availability, third in value

3. Consider the following statements regarding the geological distribution of minerals in Rajasthan:
I. The Aravalli and Delhi Supergroups are the primary host rocks for base metal deposits like copper, lead, and zinc.
II. The Marwar Supergroup is prominently associated with limestone and sandstone deposits in western Rajasthan.
III. The Deccan Traps in the southern parts of the state are rich in high-grade bituminous coal.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

4. Match the following iron ore mining areas with their respective districts in Rajasthan:
List I: (Mining Area)
P. Morija-Banol
Q. Nathra Ki Pal
R. Nimala-Raisel
S. Dabla-Singhana
List II: (District)
1. Dausa
2. Jhunjhunu
3. Jaipur
4. Udaipur
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

5. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Khetri belt in Jhunjhunu district is historically and economically the most significant copper-producing region in Rajasthan.
Reason (R): The Khetri belt hosts massive reserves of high-grade bauxite from which copper is easily smelted.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

6. The copper deposits at Kho-Dariba are located in which of the following districts of Rajasthan?
(A) Sikar
(B) Bhilwara
(C) Rajsamand
(D) Alwar

7. Which central public sector enterprise was established to undertake the extraction and processing of copper ore in the Khetri-Singhana belt?
(A) National Mineral Development Corporation
(B) Hindustan Copper Limited
(C) Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited
(D) Hindustan Zinc Limited

8. Apart from the Khetri belt, 'Pur-Dariba' is another significant area known for copper deposits. In which district is it situated?
(A) Udaipur
(B) Banswara
(C) Bhilwara
(D) Dungarpur

9. Rampura-Agucha is globally recognized as one of the largest and richest deposits of which mineral?

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(A) Manganese
(B) Tungsten
(C) Rock Phosphate
(D) Zinc-Lead

10. The ancient mining site of Zawar, noted for deep shafts and early zinc retorting technologies, is located in the district of:
(A) Udaipur
(B) Rajsamand
(C) Bhilwara
(D) Chittorgarh

11. Arrange the following major lead-zinc deposits of Rajasthan in the correct geographical order from North to South:
I. Zawar
II. Rampura-Agucha
III. Chauth Ka Barwara
IV. Rajpura-Dariba
(A) III, II, IV, I
(B) II, III, I, IV
(C) III, IV, II, I
(D) IV, II, III, I

12. Lead is almost universally found in association with zinc in Rajasthan. Which of the following is the primary ore mineral from which lead is extracted?
(A) Sphalerite
(B) Galena
(C) Chalcopyrite
(D) Hematite

13. Which major corporate entity holds the dominant market share and operating rights for lead and zinc mining in Rajasthan?
(A) Hindustan Zinc Limited
(B) Tata Steel Mining Division
(C) Hindalco Industries Limited
(D) Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited

14. Sindesar Khurd, an extensively mechanized underground mine known for producing lead-zinc and silver, is situated in which district?
(A) Udaipur
(B) Bhilwara
(C) Rajsamand
(D) Ajmer

15. Consider the following statements regarding the iron ore reserves in Rajasthan:
I. Rajasthan possesses predominantly hematite variety of iron ore.
II. The Morija-Banol area is the largest iron ore deposit in the state.
III. Iron ore deposits in Rajasthan are typically associated with the Dharwar rock system.
IV. 'Thur Hunder' and 'Nathra Ki Pal' are well-known iron ore locations in the Udaipur district.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

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16. The iron ore deposits of 'Chomu-Samod' are geographically located in the district of:
(A) Sikar
(B) Dausa
(C) Jaipur
(D) Jhunjhunu

17. Which of the following districts is NOT a major contributor to the production of iron ore in Rajasthan?
(A) Jaipur
(B) Jaisalmer
(C) Dausa
(D) Udaipur

18. The 'Nimala-Raisel' iron ore mining area is situated in which district?
(A) Alwar
(B) Sikar
(C) Tonk
(D) Dausa

19. The 'Rewat Hill' near Degana in Nagaur district historically achieved national prominence for the mining of which strategic mineral?
(A) Tungsten
(B) Molybdenum
(C) Cobalt
(D) Lithium

20. Tungsten is extracted from which of the following specific ore minerals found in Rajasthan?
(A) Bauxite
(B) Pyrolusite
(C) Wolframite
(D) Chromite

21. Besides Degana, the 'Walda' area in Rajasthan is also known for tungsten mineralization. In which district is Walda located?
(A) Sirohi
(B) Pali
(C) Jalore

77. (A) Meena
The Meena community is recognized as a socio-economically advanced tribal group in Rajasthan, characterized by settled agricultural landownership. Early educational advancement and effective social mobilization enabled the community to secure a prominent representation in government employment, public administration, state civil services, and national administrative cadres compared to other tribal populations in the state.

78. (A) I and II only
Meenas constitute the most populous Scheduled Tribe in Rajasthan, and Sahariyas are designated as the state's sole Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group. However, the Kathodi tribe is native to forested hilly regions of Southern Rajasthan, mainly Udaipur district, rather than arid desert tracts, rendering statements locating Kathodis in the Thar Desert factually incorrect.

79. (D) It acts as a permanent ornament that goes with them even after death.
Tattooing or Gudna is an indelible body art tradition deeply embedded among tribal women in Rajasthan. According to long-standing cultural beliefs, worldly material possessions and metal jewelry are left behind upon death, whereas tattoo markings serve as permanent body ornaments that remain physically engraved on the skin, accompanying the individual soul into the afterlife.

80. (C) Bhil
The traditional craft of crafting Tir-Kaman (bow and arrow) is closely associated with the Bhil tribe, whose very name derives from the Dravidian word 'Bil' meaning bow. Historically renowned as expert archers, hunters, and forest warriors, making high-quality wooden bows and steel-tipped arrows remains an authentic traditional craft among Bhil artisans in Southern Rajasthan.

81. (B) Mama Dev ke Ghode
Terracotta votive clay horses offered to local village deities by the Bhil and Garasia communities are locally known as Mama Dev ke Ghode. Produced by traditional potters, these hand-crafted clay figures are placed at sacred outdoor shrines dedicated to deity Mama Dev as ritual offerings to invoke rain, protect village boundaries, and seek healing for sickness.

82. (D) Neck
Hansli is a traditional, solid, torque-style collar ornament crafted from silver or base metals, worn around the neck by rural and tribal women in Rajasthan. Resting prominently on the collarbone, this rigid necklace signifies marital status, social identity, and economic wealth, serving as an iconic piece of traditional tribal jewelry across Southern Rajasthan.

83. (A) Bhomiya Ji
Bhomiya Ji is revered as the spiritual guardian deity (Kshetrapal) of village lands, fields, and agricultural territories in Rajasthan. Tribal and rural agrarian communities establish local shrines or stone markers dedicated to Bhomiya Ji, offering prayers and rituals to seek protection for livestock, crop harvests, boundary security, and defense against land disputes or natural disasters.

84. (C) Dhulev
The ancient shrine of Rishabhdev Ji, affectionately called Kalaji or Kesariyaji by the Bhil community, is located at Dhulev in Udaipur district. The temple holds immense inter-religious significance, venerated by Jains as Lord Rishabhdev and by local Bhils as Kalaji, who offer saffron (kesar) to the deity while considering oaths sworn in his name inviolable.

85. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Customary practices define tribal social structures across Rajasthan. The Nata custom permits living together without formal marriage, whereas Dapa refers to the payment of bride price by the groom's family. Chheda Fadna represents a symbolic custom of divorce, and Jhugra denotes monetary compensation paid to settle social or marital disputes among community members.

86. (D) Sahariya
Kodia Devi is traditionally worshipped as the primary patron goddess or Kuldevi of the Sahariya tribe in Baran district. Shrines dedicated to Kodia Devi are situated near Sahariya hamlets, where community members offer prayers during childbirth, marriages, and religious festivals to seek spiritual protection, good health, and family prosperity from their ancestral deity.

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(C) 1975, 1990, 2005, 2015
(D) 1982, 1998, 2012, 2020

34. The beneficiated rock phosphate extracted from Jhamarkotra serves as the fundamental raw material for which major industry?
(A) Glass and ceramics
(B) Petrochemicals
(C) Iron and steel metallurgy
(D) Phosphatic fertilizers

35. 'Maton' and 'Kanpur' are two other significant mining localities in the Udaipur district associated with the extraction of:
(A) Rock Phosphate
(B) Lignite coal deposits
(C) Barytes (Barite) minerals
(D) Commercial mica

36. Rajasthan holds an absolute monopoly in India for the gem-quality production of which semi-precious stone, found predominantly at Rajmahal in Tonk?
(A) Emerald
(B) Aquamarine
(C) Garnet
(D) Tourmaline

37. In local terminology within Rajasthan, the red-colored gem variety of garnet is commonly referred to as:
(A) Tamra
(B) Panna (Emerald)
(C) Neelam (Blue Sapphire)
(D) Gomed (Hessonite)

38. Which district contributes more than 90% of the total feldspar production in Rajasthan?
(A) Bhilwara
(B) Pali
(C) Jaipur
(D) Ajmer

39. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Ajmer is the largest producer of feldspar in Rajasthan.
Reason (R): The Ajmer region possesses abundant pegmatite intrusions that are highly enriched in feldspar and quartz minerals.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

40. The Udaipur-Rajsamand mineral belt is NOT noted for the large-scale commercial extraction of which of the following minerals?
(A) Marble
(B) Lead-Zinc
(C) Lignite Coal
(D) Rock Phosphate

41. The prominence of the Udaipur-Rajsamand region as a mineral processing hub is primarily attributed to:
(A) Strategic proximity to deep-sea ports and international maritime routes
(B) Abundant local availability of high-grade fossil fuels like anthracite coal
(C) Complete and absolute tax exemptions granted by the central government
(D) Rich multi-mineral base accompanied by established processing facilities

42. In the Jhunjhunu-Khetri copper belt, the primary copper mineralization is found within the rocks of the:
(A) Ajabgarh Group
(B) Alwar Group
(C) Bhilwara Supergroup
(D) Deccan Traps

43. Which significant by-product is typically recovered during the smelting of copper ores from the Khetri belt?
(A) Uranium
(B) Sulphuric acid
(C) Phosphoric acid
(D) Titanium dioxide

44. The town of Singhana in Jhunjhunu marks the northern extremity of the Khetri Copper Belt. Which geographical feature marks its southern extension in the Sikar district?
(A) Harsh Nath
(B) Raghunathgarh
(C) Baleshwar
(D) Neem Ka Thana

45. Consider the following statements regarding the Rajasthan Mineral Policy 2015:
I. It places a strong emphasis on achieving zero-waste mining and adopting modern technology.
II. It aims to streamline the process of granting mineral concessions to attract private

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operations systematically extract these extensive multi-metal sulfide reserves.

10. (A) Udaipur
The historical Zawar mining complex is located in the Udaipur district of Rajasthan. Zawar holds global archaeological and metallurgical importance due to its ancient zinc smelting retorts, deep shafts, and early zinc production heritage dating back over two millennia. Today, it remains an active underground mining center producing substantial lead and zinc.

11. (A) III, II, IV, I
Arranging these lead-zinc deposits from north to south yields Chauth Ka Barwara in Sawai Madhopur district, followed by Rampura-Agucha in Bhilwara district, Rajpura-Dariba in Rajsamand district, and finally Zawar in Udaipur district. This spatial distribution highlights how major base metal reserves in Rajasthan align along a north-to-south regional geological corridor.

12. (B) Galena
Galena, chemically known as lead sulfide, serves as the primary and most important ore mineral for lead extraction in Rajasthan. It consistently occurs in close geological association with sphalerite, which is zinc sulfide. These sulfide minerals are jointly mined from hydrothermal deposit systems located across major base metal belts in the state.

13. (A) Hindustan Zinc Limited
Hindustan Zinc Limited holds a dominant market share and operating control over lead and zinc mining operations in Rajasthan. Originally established as a public sector entity before its privatization, the company operates world-class integrated mines and smelting facilities at key locations like Rampura-Agucha, Chanderiya, Zawar, and Sindesar Khurd across Rajasthan.

14. (C) Rajsamand
Sindesar Khurd is a highly mechanized, high-tech underground mine located in the Rajsamand district of Rajasthan. Operated by Hindustan Zinc Limited, this facility is recognized for producing vast quantities of lead-zinc ore with rich silver by-products. Its advanced mining technology makes it one of the most efficient mining units in India.

15. (B) I, II, and IV only
Rajasthan's iron ore deposits consist primarily of hematite variety minerals. The Morija-Banol belt in Jaipur represents the state's largest deposit, while Thur Hunder and Nathra Ki Pal are key iron ore sites in Udaipur district. However, these iron deposits are associated with the Precambrian Delhi and Aravalli Supergroups, not Dharwar rock formations.

16. (C) Jaipur
The Chomu-Samod iron ore deposit is located within the Jaipur district of Rajasthan. Situated in proximity to other major iron mineralized belts like Morija-Banol, this area contains hematite-rich iron deposits. Mining activities in Chomu-Samod historically contributed to supplying raw iron ore to regional industries across northern and central Rajasthan.

17. (B) Jaisalmer
Jaisalmer district is primarily situated in western Rajasthan's desert terrain, dominated by sedimentary formations containing limestone, gypsum, bentonite, and fossil fuels, rather than iron ore. In contrast, districts like Jaipur, Dausa, and Udaipur host well-documented hematite iron ore deposits embedded within Precambrian metamorphic rock suites of the Aravalli belt.

18. (D) Dausa
The Nimala-Raisel mining locality is a significant iron ore deposit situated in the Dausa district of Rajasthan. The iron ore found in this area is predominantly hematite grade, hosted in banded iron formations within the Delhi Supergroup rocks. Mining in Nimala-Raisel contributes notably to the state's total iron ore production capacity.

19. (A) Tungsten
Rewat Hill, situated near Degana in Nagaur district, gained immense national prominence as India's primary and most famous tungsten mining site. Tungsten ore in this area occurs within quartz veins intersecting granite host rocks. Operations historically extracted high-density tungsten, a strategic heavy metal vital for defense, industrial cutting, and metallurgical applications.

20. (C) Wolframite
Tungsten in Rajasthan is extracted primarily from wolframite, an iron-manganese tungstate

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55. A significant portion of mining royalties is mandated to be deposited into the District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT). The primary objective of DMFT funds is to:
(A) Provide capital subsidies for purchasing heavy machinery to private operators
(B) Work for the welfare and development of mining-affected areas
(C) Finance the general administrative and operational expenses of state departments
(D) Invest exclusively in modern geological exploration and mineral surveys

56. The royalty rates for major minerals in Rajasthan are determined and notified by which authority?
(A) Chief Minister of Rajasthan
(B) Department of Mines and Geology, Rajasthan
(C) Central Government under the MMDR Act
(D) Indian Bureau of Mines

57. Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited (RSMML) is a flagship public sector enterprise. Where is its registered corporate office located?
(A) Jaipur
(B) Jodhpur
(C) Bikaner
(D) Udaipur

58. Consider the following statements regarding Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited (RSMML):
I. It was incorporated to achieve scientific and cost-effective mining of minerals in the state.
II. It enjoys a near-monopoly in the mining and marketing of rock phosphate from Jhamarkotra.
III. It operates significant lignite mining projects in western Rajasthan to support power generation.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

59. The lignite mining operations managed by RSMML, specifically at Giral, are located in which district?
(A) Bikaner
(B) Barmer
(C) Nagaur
(D) Jaisalmer

60. To curb the illegal mining and transportation of minerals, the Department of Mines and Geology (Rajasthan) has implemented which digital transit pass system?
(A) e-Khanij
(B) e-Ravanna
(C) e-Bhoomi
(D) e-Parivahan

61. Besides the e-transit pass system, what modern technological intervention is increasingly being deployed by the Rajasthan government to monitor unauthorized mining activities?
(A) Drone and satellite monitoring
(B) High-sensitivity underground seismic sensor networks
(C) Deep ground-penetrating radar imaging systems
(D) Fully automated robotic excavation equipment

62. Which particular mineral resource has witnessed widespread illegal mining in riverbeds across Rajasthan, prompting strict judicial interventions and policy shifts towards M-Sand?
(A) High-grade Masonry Stone
(B) Industrial China Clay
(C) River Sand
(D) Structural Quartzite

63. Rajasthan is the sole producer (100% contribution) of which set of minerals in India?
(A) Copper, Lead, and Zinc
(B) Lignite, Gypsum, and Rock Phosphate
(C) Silver, Gold, and Platinum
(D) Jasper, Selenite, and Wollastonite

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64. Match the following minerals with their corresponding rank of Rajasthan in total Indian production:
List I: (Mineral)
P. Lead-Zinc Ores
Q. Copper Ore
R. Phosphorite (Rock Phosphate)
S. Iron Ore
List II: (Rank in India)
1. First
2. Second
3. First
4. Minor/Low rank
(A) P-1, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-1, S-4
(C) P-1, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(D) P-2, Q-2, R-4, S-1

investment.
III. It completely bans the export of dimensional stones out of the state.
IV. It outlines a framework for the systematic and scientific exploration of minerals.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

46. To address the acute shortage of river sand and prevent ecological degradation of riverbeds, the Government of Rajasthan introduced a dedicated policy for Manufactured Sand (M-Sand) in which year?
(A) 2015
(B) 2018
(C) 2020
(D) 2022

47. The grant and regulation of minor mineral concessions in the state are specifically governed by which set of rules?
(A) Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957
(B) Rajasthan Mineral Extraction Guidelines, 2011
(C) Indian Bureau of Mines Rules, 2016
(D) Rajasthan Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2017

48. Which is the nodal administrative department responsible for systematic geological exploration, mineral administration, and revenue collection in Rajasthan?
(A) Department of Environment and Climate Change
(B) Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board
(C) Department of Mines and Geology (DMG)
(D) Department of Industries and Commerce

49. The regulatory framework for mining in Rajasthan distinguishes between major and minor minerals. Which of the following is classified as a minor mineral?
(A) Rock Phosphate
(B) Marble
(C) Lignite
(D) Copper ore

50. What is the primary cause of 'Silicosis', a severe occupational health hazard frequently reported among sandstone mine and crusher workers in Rajasthan?
(A) Exposure to toxic carbon monoxide in underground mines
(B) Ingestion of lead-contaminated water
(C) Allergic reaction to unrefined marble slurry
(D) Prolonged inhalation of free crystalline silica dust

51. Consider the following stages of a standard, sustainable mining project lifecycle:
I. Prospecting and Exploration
II. Mine Closure and Ecological Reclamation
III. Mineral Extraction
IV. Beneficiation and Processing
Which of the following represents the correct chronological order of these stages?
(A) I, III, IV, II
(B) I, IV, III, II
(C) III, I, IV, II
(D) I, III, II, IV

52. In recognition of the severe occupational hazards faced by mineworkers, the Rajasthan Government launched a dedicated welfare and relief policy known as the "Pneumoconiosis Policy" in the year:
(A) 2015
(B) 2017
(C) 2019
(D) 2021

53. Unscientific and rampant mining in the Aravalli hills has been heavily criticized by environmental bodies primarily due to:
(A) Severe depletion of groundwater tables and loss of forest cover
(B) The rapid exhaustion of precious gold reserves
(C) The contamination of desert soils with excessive salinity
(D) Overproduction leading to crashes in international stone prices

54. Royalties and levies collected from the extraction of minerals and petroleum constitute a massive portion of Rajasthan's state revenue. How is this revenue classified in the state budget?
(A) Tax Revenue
(B) Capital Receipts
(C) Grants-in-aid
(D) Non-Tax Revenue

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75. The practice of 'backfilling', encouraged under the Rajasthan Mineral Policy, is an environmental mitigation strategy designed to:
(A) Increase the purity of extracted minerals
(B) Restore and reclaim exhausted open-cast mining pits
(C) Dispose of hazardous chemical effluents into groundwater
(D) Reduce the royalty payments to the state

76. Consider the following statements regarding the environmental impacts of unregulated mining in Rajasthan:
I. It leads to severe degradation of natural drainage systems and riverbeds.
II. It accelerates soil erosion and the loss of green cover in the Aravallis.
III. It significantly increases the groundwater recharge rate.
IV. It generates harmful suspended particulate matter, degrading local air quality.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, II, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

77. Rajasthan holds a prominent position on the global map for the export of which specific category of value-added mineral products?
(A) Dimensional stones
(B) High-grade processed nuclear uranium fuel
(C) Refined and unrefined crude petroleum oil
(D) High-density raw iron ore pellets and sinters

78. Which non-ferrous metal, smelted and refined largely in Rajasthan, constitutes a significant portion of India's base metal exports?
(A) Aluminum
(B) Nickel
(C) Zinc
(D) Tin

79. The export potential of Rajasthan's gem and jewelry sector is historically anchored by the mining and processing of which localized colored gemstone?
(A) Natural gem-quality diamonds
(B) Deep-red star rubies
(C) High-grade blue sapphires
(D) Garnet and Emerald

80. 'Kala Guman' and 'Tikhi' in Rajasthan are historically famous for the discovery and sporadic mining of which precious stone?
(A) Diamond
(B) Blue Sapphire
(C) Emerald
(D) Topaz

81. Consider the following statements concerning precious and strategic metals in Rajasthan:
I. The Anandpuri-Bhukia area in Banswara district has proven reserves of gold.
II. Silver in Rajasthan is primarily obtained as a by-product of lead-zinc smelting.
III. Rajasthan is the largest producer of primary gold ore in India.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

82. 'Kapurdi', 'Jalipa', and 'Giral' are important geographical locations in the Barmer district associated with the extraction of:
(A) Rock Phosphate
(B) Limestone
(C) Gypsum
(D) Lignite Coal

83. The mining of which fibrous mineral, once abundant in Udaipur and Dungarpur districts, is currently heavily restricted or banned due to its severe carcinogenic properties?
(A) Asbestos
(B) Wollastonite
(C) Soapstone
(D) Vermiculite

84. Which district in Rajasthan is historically renowned for mica mining, earning it the moniker "Mica City" or "Abhrak Nagari"?
(A) Jaipur
(B) Ajmer
(C) Bhilwara
(D) Sikar

85. Match the following specific mine locations with their corresponding base metal/mineral:
List I: (Location)
P. Kolihan
Q. Rajpura-Dariba
R. Saladipura
S. Lilawani

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65. Rajasthan is ranked as the second-largest producing state of Copper ore in India. Which state holds the first position?
(A) Jharkhand
(B) Madhya Pradesh
(C) Odisha
(D) Karnataka

66. Rajasthan holds a leading position in the production of Bentonite, a type of absorbent clay. Which district is the foremost producer of Bentonite in the state?
(A) Bikaner
(B) Udaipur
(C) Ajmer
(D) Barmer

67. The abundant availability of high-grade limestone, gypsum, and reliable power has led to the heavy concentration of which industry in the Chittorgarh-Nimbahera region?
(A) Portland Cement
(B) Glass and Ceramics
(C) Chemical Fertilizers
(D) Iron and Steel

68. The rock phosphate mined at Jhamarkotra forms the critical backward linkage for which major industrial plant situated in the state?
(A) Hindustan Zinc Limited Smelting Complex (Chanderiya)
(B) Rajasthan State Chemical Works Plant (Didwana)
(C) Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals
(D) Shree Cement Limited Industrial Complex (Beawar)

69. The mining of feldspar and high-purity quartz in the Ajmer-Jaipur belt serves as the primary raw material base for which industry?
(A) Ceramics and glass
(B) Synthetic textile manufacturing
(C) Paper and pulp processing
(D) Petrochemical refining

70. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Rajasthan possesses a highly developed and export-oriented stone processing industry.
Reason (R): The state is abundantly endowed with a wide variety of dimensional and decorative stones such as marble, granite, sandstone, and slate.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

71. The mining and quarrying sector in Rajasthan is a crucial pillar of the state's economy, primarily because it:
(A) Generates the highest volume of foreign direct investment (FDI) among all sectors
(B) Employs a vast number of unskilled and semi-skilled rural laborers
(C) Completely eliminates the need for agricultural employment
(D) Focuses exclusively on highly automated, capital-intensive operations

72. Within Rajasthan's mining landscape, which specific sub-sector is characterized by being the most fragmented, widespread, and labor-intensive?
(A) Large-scale underground base metal mining operations
(B) Fully mechanized open-cast lignite mining projects
(C) Minor mineral quarrying
(D) Deep-shaft precious metal exploration activities

73. To generate local employment and formalize the sector, the state government periodically allots specific quarry licenses to 'Khatedars' on their own agricultural land for extracting:
(A) Base metals like copper, lead, and zinc
(B) Strategic rare earth elements and minerals
(C) High-value precious gemstones and crystals
(D) Masonry stone and ordinary earth

74. As per the principles of sustainable mining enforced in Rajasthan, what is the mandatory requirement for a mining leaseholder before commencing operations?
(A) An approved Mine Closure Plan
(B) Establishing a dedicated tax-free export zone
(C) Constructing an on-site captive thermal power plant
(D) Deploying a fully automated and robotic workforce

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ANSWERS

1. (B) Lead-Zinc ores, Selenite, and Wollastonite
Rajasthan holds a virtual monopoly in India regarding the production of lead-zinc ores, selenite, and wollastonite, contributing almost total national output for these minerals. The unique geological rock formations across the state provide an exceptional environment for hosting these deposits. Consequently, mining operations in these specific resources significantly boost the regional mining industrial economy.

2. (D) Second in availability, third in value
In terms of mineral wealth distribution across Indian states, Rajasthan ranks second in the overall availability of diverse mineral resources, trailing only Jharkhand. However, regarding the total economic value of mineral production, Rajasthan occupies the third position in the country. This distinction arises because a large portion of its extracted minerals comprises non-metallic and minor minerals.

3. (A) I and II only
The geological structural framework of Rajasthan hosts base metals like copper, lead, and zinc primarily within Precambrian rocks of the Aravalli and Delhi Supergroups. Similarly, non-metallic sedimentary deposits like limestone and high-grade sandstone occur within the Marwar Supergroup. In contrast, Deccan Traps in southern regions lack bituminous coal, which is typically found in Gondwana basins.

4. (C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Iron ore mining sites in Rajasthan show distinct geographic distributions. The Morija-Banol deposit is located in Jaipur district, whereas Nathra Ki Pal is situated in Udaipur district. Furthermore, the Nimala-Raisel iron ore deposit lies in Dausa district, while the Dabla-Singhana mining area belongs to Jhunjhunu district, reflecting widespread iron ore mineralization throughout the state.

5. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
The Khetri belt located in Jhunjhunu district represents Rajasthan's most historic and productive copper mineralized zone. However, copper extraction in this region is derived from sulfide copper mineral deposits such as chalcopyrite, rather than bauxite. Bauxite serves primarily as the principal ore for aluminum production, rendering the stated geological reason incorrect despite the assertion being accurate.

6. (D) Alwar
Kho-Dariba is a prominent copper-bearing mineral deposit located within the Alwar district of Rajasthan. The economic copper mineralization in Kho-Dariba occurs mainly in amphibolite and quartzite rock formations belonging to the Delhi Supergroup. Historically, this mining area has been highly significant for state copper extraction alongside other notable regional mineral belts.

7. (B) Hindustan Copper Limited
Hindustan Copper Limited, a premier Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Mines, was established in November 1967. It was specifically mandated to develop, mine, and process copper resources in the Khetri-Singhana belt in Rajasthan. The corporation operates the Khetri Copper Complex, managing integrated underground mining, ore beneficiation, and refining infrastructure in the region.

8. (C) Bhilwara
Pur-Dariba is an essential mineralized zone situated within the Bhilwara district of Rajasthan. The area is geologically renowned for copper and polymetallic mineral occurrences hosted in Precambrian metamorphic terrain. Mineral exploration in Pur-Dariba has identified significant base metal reserves, contributing to the broader mineral wealth and mining history of Bhilwara district.

9. (D) Zinc-Lead
Rampura-Agucha, situated in the Bhilwara district of Rajasthan, is internationally renowned as one of the world's richest and largest zinc-lead ore deposits. The deposit features exceptionally high metal grades hosted within Precambrian garnet-biotite-sillimanite gneiss rock units. Large-scale open-cast and underground mining

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List II: (Mineral)
1. Lead-Zinc
2. Copper
3. Manganese
4. Pyrites

(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

86. The 'Saladipura' area in Sikar district is well-known for the deposits of which mineral, useful in the production of sulphuric acid?
(A) Fluorite
(B) Baryte
(C) Calcite
(D) Pyrite

87. The 'Lilawani' and 'Talwara' areas of Banswara district are the chief producing centers for which of the following ores?
(A) High-grade iron ore
(B) Manganese
(C) Commercial copper ore
(D) Refractory bauxite

88. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The commercial extraction of asbestos in Rajasthan has been largely halted.
Reason (R): Asbestos fibers pose extreme health risks, being directly linked to fatal respiratory illnesses like asbestosis and mesothelioma among miners.
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

89. Which of the following represents the correct descending sequence of Rajasthan's districts based on their historical importance and quantum of Rock Phosphate reserves?
(A) Udaipur > Jaisalmer > Banswara
(B) Banswara > Jaisalmer > Udaipur
(C) Jaisalmer > Udaipur > Banswara
(D) Udaipur > Banswara > Jaisalmer

90. Consider the following statements regarding the socio-economic contribution of the mining sector in Rajasthan:

I. It forms the backbone of the state's industrial sector by providing raw materials to cement, glass, and fertilizer industries.
II. Royalties from mineral extraction contribute marginally, less than 1%, to the state's non-tax revenue.
III. The District Mineral Foundation (DMF) acts as a crucial funding mechanism for improving healthcare and education in mining-affected areas.
IV. The dimensional stone sector has placed Rajasthan prominently in the global export market.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, III, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

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mineral. Found in vein-type hydrothermal deposits at sites like Degana, wolframite exhibits high specific gravity and resistance to heat. Commercial extraction involves concentrating this ore mineral to isolate pure tungsten metal required for specialized industrial and defense-related applications.

21. (A) Sirohi
The Walda mining area is an important tungsten mineralization locality situated in the Sirohi district of Rajasthan. Along with Degana, Walda features quartz vein-hosted wolframite mineralization associated with granitic igneous intrusions. Geological studies in Walda have confirmed workable reserves of high-density tungsten ore, reinforcing Sirohi's position on Rajasthan's mineral map.

22. (D) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
Gypsum mining centers in Rajasthan are widely scattered across its western arid region. Jamsar, one of India's largest open-cast gypsum mines, is located in Bikaner district, whereas Got Manglod lies in Nagaur district. Mohangarh is situated in Jaisalmer district, and Kawas represents a key gypsum producing area within Barmer district.

23. (B) Selenite
Selenite is the transparent, highly pure, crystalline variety of gypsum found abundantly in western Rajasthan, particularly around Bikaner and Barmer. Because of its exceptional purity and distinct crystal clarity, selenite is extensively used in high-grade plaster, ceramics, chemical processing, and specialized industrial manufacturing processes requiring unadulterated calcium sulfate dihydrate.

24. (D) 90-95%
Rajasthan holds an overwhelming national supremacy in gypsum mining, contributing approximately 90 to 95 percent of India's total annual production. Vast evaporite gypsum beds distributed across western districts such as Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Nagaur, and Barmer ensure that the state remains the principal supplier of gypsum to national industries.

25. (D) Plaster of Paris and cement
Gypsum extracted from Rajasthan is primarily consumed by the cement and Plaster of Paris manufacturing sectors. In cement production, gypsum acts as a critical retarding agent to control setting time. Additionally, calcined gypsum is transformed into Plaster of Paris, widespread in construction, interior design, mold making, and medical casts.

26. (A) Steel (SMS) grade
The Sonu area in Jaisalmer district is nationally crucial for producing high-grade Steel Melting Shop (SMS) limestone. This specialized limestone possesses ultra-low silica content and exceptional chemical purity, making it indispensable as a fluxing agent in steel manufacturing plants across India to remove impurities during high-temperature metallurgical smelting processes.

27. (B) Chittorgarh
Chittorgarh district has established itself as the leading cement manufacturing hub in Rajasthan due to its immense reserves of high-quality, cement-grade limestone. The regional limestone belongs to the Vindhyan Supergroup, offering ideal chemical composition for cement kilns. Numerous large-scale integrated cement plants operate within Chittorgarh, supplying infrastructure projects nationwide.

28. (D) I, II, and III
Rajasthan exhibits diverse marble varieties matched with specific districts. Makrana in Nagaur district is globally famous for calcitic white marble. Udaipur district is celebrated for serpentinic green marble extraction. Bhainslana in Jaipur district is known for unique black marble deposits, confirming the spatial variety of dimension stones found across Rajasthan.

29. (A) Delhi Supergroup
The iconic Makrana marble belongs geologically to the Precambrian Delhi Supergroup rock formations. Subjected to intense regional metamorphism, the limestone recrystallized into pure calcitic marble with low iron impurities. This structural transformation conferred extraordinary weather resistance, structural strength, and brilliant whiteness, used historically in monuments like the Taj Mahal.

30. (C) Pink marble
The Babar Mal mining belt in Udaipur district is specifically famous for the extraction of high-quality pink marble. This distinctive dimension stone displays attractive pink shades created by minor mineral traces during metamorphic recrystallization. Pink marble from Babar Mal

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is widely processed and traded for decorative architectural uses across India.

31. (D) Kishangarh
Kishangarh, situated in Ajmer district, is commercially recognized as the "Marble City of India." While not a primary mining site itself, Kishangarh houses the country's largest cluster of marble processing, cutting, polishing, and trading enterprises. It imports raw stone blocks globally and nationally, distributing finished slabs to international markets.

32. (C) Rock Phosphate
Jhamarkotra, situated near Udaipur, holds India's largest, richest workable deposit of rock phosphate. Discovered in Precambrian stromatolithic limestone formations, this deposit contains high-grade phosphorite reserves essential for agricultural fertilizers. Managed by Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited, Jhamarkotra is pivotal to reducing India's reliance on imported phosphate raw materials.

33. (A) 1978, 1994, 2011, 2015
The Government of Rajasthan has progressively framed state mineral policies to guide sustainable mining development. The first policy was declared in 1978, followed by major policy revisions in 1994, 2011, and most recently in 2015. Each iteration introduced legal reforms, modern technology mandates, environmental safeguards, and enhanced private sector participation.

34. (D) Phosphatic fertilizers
Beneficiated rock phosphate produced at the Jhamarkotra processing plant serves as the fundamental raw material for the chemical fertilizer industry. Phosphorite is converted into single superphosphate and diammonium phosphate through chemical treatment. These phosphatic fertilizers are essential agricultural inputs used nationwide to enhance soil phosphorus levels and crop yields.

35. (A) Rock Phosphate
Maton and Kanpur are key mining localities situated in the Udaipur district, known for significant rock phosphate deposits. Like nearby Jhamarkotra, these areas feature phosphorite mineralization within Precambrian stromatolithic dolomitic limestone. The extracted mineral provides essential phosphatic raw materials used directly in chemical fertilizer manufacturing across India.

36. (C) Garnet
Rajasthan maintains a total monopoly in India for producing gem-quality garnet, concentrated primarily at Rajmahal in Tonk district and adjacent regions. Garnet is a silicate mineral occurring in metamorphic schists. The brilliant clarity, deep red color, and hardness of Tonk garnets make them highly prized in gemstone cutting and jewelry sectors.

37. (A) Tamra
In local vernacular terminology across Rajasthan, the blood-red gem-grade variety of garnet is commonly known as 'Tamra' or 'Raktamani'. Renowned for its rich reddish coloration and high clarity, Tamra is extensively mined, cut, and polished in regional lapidary centers like Jaipur for application in traditional and modern gemstone jewelry design.

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38. (D) Ajmer
Ajmer district is the leading center for feldspar extraction in Rajasthan, contributing over 90 percent of the state's total annual production. Abundant pegmatite veins intruding Precambrian metamorphic rocks across Ajmer provide high-purity potassium and sodium feldspar, which serve as essential raw materials for ceramic, tile, and glass manufacturing industries.

39. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Ajmer district ranks as Rajasthan's premier producer of feldspar due to unique geological conditions. The region features numerous pegmatite intrusions associated with the Aravalli-Delhi tectonic belt, which are enriched in coarse-grained feldspar and quartz crystals. This geological concentration directly explains why Ajmer maintains overwhelming dominance in state feldspar mining output.

40. (C) Lignite Coal
The Udaipur-Rajsamand mineral belt is celebrated for non-metallic and base metal resources, including high-grade marble, lead-zinc sulfide deposits, and rock phosphate. However, lignite coal is absent in this region, as commercial lignite reserves in Rajasthan are restricted to Tertiary sedimentary basins in western desert districts like Barmer, Bikaner, and Nagaur.

41. (D) Rich multi-mineral base accompanied by established processing facilities
The prominence of the Udaipur-Rajsamand region as a major mineral hub stems from its diverse geological endowment combined with mature industrial processing infrastructure. The area hosts massive deposits of lead, zinc, marble, soapstone, and rock phosphate, supported by specialized beneficiation plants, modern cutting units, and efficient logistics networks.

42. (A) Ajabgarh Group
In the famous Khetri copper belt of Jhunjhunu district, primary copper mineralization occurs mainly within metamorphic host rocks belonging to the Ajabgarh Group of the Delhi Supergroup. The mineralized strata comprise schists, quartzites, and phyllites, where copper sulfide minerals such as chalcopyrite were deposited along major structural fracture zones.

43. (B) Sulphuric acid
During the pyrometallurgical smelting of copper sulfide ores from the Khetri belt, sulfur dioxide gas is captured as a major operational by-product. This gas is systematically converted into commercial-grade sulphuric acid in specialized byproduct plants, minimizing atmospheric pollution while supplying vital chemical raw material to fertilizer and industrial manufacturing sectors.

44. (B) Raghunathgarh
The Khetri Copper Belt extends over an 80-kilometer structural linear trend along the Aravalli range. The town of Singhana in Jhunjhunu district forms its northern terminus, whereas Raghunathgarh in Sikar district marks its southern extension. This belt contains multiple copper mineralization centers embedded in Delhi Supergroup metamorphic rocks.

45. (B) I, II, and IV only
The Rajasthan Mineral Policy 2015 emphasizes sustainable mining, zero-waste practices, streamlined licensing, and scientific mineral exploration to boost economic growth. However, it does not ban dimensional stone exports. Instead, the policy actively promotes value addition and international trade in dimensional stones like marble, granite, and sandstone to increase export earnings.

46. (C) 2020
To address acute shortages of natural river sand and mitigate riverbed ecological damage, the Government of Rajasthan released its dedicated M-Sand Policy in 2020. This policy promotes Manufactured Sand as an eco-friendly alternative produced by crushing hard rocks, providing industrial incentives and mandating M-Sand usage in public construction projects.

47. (D) Rajasthan Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2017
In Rajasthan, the grant, administration, and regulation of minor mineral leases are governed specifically by the Rajasthan Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2017. Framed under powers delegated by central legislation, these state rules establish procedures for quarry licenses, royalty rates, environmental compliance, and competitive bidding for minor minerals like marble and sandstone.

48. (C) Department of Mines and Geology (DMG)
The Department of Mines and Geology, headquartered in Udaipur, is the nodal government department in Rajasthan responsible for mineral resource management. It oversees systematic geological mapping, mineral exploration, mine safety compliance, lease allocations, and royalty revenue collection, serving as the central authority for regulating the state's vast mining sector.

49. (B) Marble
Under Indian mining legislation, minerals are divided into major and minor categories based on regulatory oversight. Marble is legally classified as a minor mineral, giving state governments full regulatory authority over its leasing and royalty structure. Conversely, rock phosphate, lignite, and copper ore fall under the major mineral classification governed centrally.

50. (D) Prolonged inhalation of free crystalline silica dust
Silicosis is a severe, irreversible occupational lung disease prevalent among sandstone, granite, and crusher quarry workers in Rajasthan. It is directly caused by the prolonged inhalation of fine, airborne free crystalline silica dust generated during cutting, drilling, and crushing operations, leading to progressive lung tissue scarring and severe respiratory failure.

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71. (B) Employs a vast number of unskilled and semi-skilled rural laborers
The mining and quarrying sector serves as a pivotal economic pillar in Rajasthan primarily because of its massive employment generation capacity. Thousands of small-scale quarries, dimensional stone processing plants, and transport networks provide essential direct and indirect livelihoods to millions of unskilled and semi-skilled rural workers, mitigating rural unemployment.

72. (C) Minor mineral quarrying
Within Rajasthan's mining sector, minor mineral quarrying—encompassing sandstone, marble, granite, and masonry stone—represents the most fragmented, widespread, and labor-intensive sub-sector. Thousands of small open-pit operations across rural regions rely heavily on manual labor and local contractors, contrasting sharply with highly mechanized, centralized major underground mining projects.

73. (D) Masonry stone and ordinary earth
Under state mineral concession regulations, Khatedars (agricultural landowners) in Rajasthan can obtain dedicated quarry licenses to extract minor minerals like masonry stone and ordinary earth from their land holdings. This scheme legalizes small-scale extraction, generates local employment, simplifies mineral access for regional infrastructure, and boosts state non-tax revenue.

74. (A) An approved Mine Closure Plan
In compliance with sustainable mining principles enforced by regulatory authorities in Rajasthan, every mining leaseholder must secure an officially approved Mine Closure Plan prior to commencing operations. This document outlines environmental protection measures, progressive land reclamation, pit backfilling, and post-mining site rehabilitation strategies to ensure long-term ecological restoration.

75. (B) Restore and reclaim exhausted open-cast mining pits
Backfilling is a key environmental mitigation strategy mandated under Rajasthan's mineral policy for open-cast mining operations. The process involves filling overburden, waste rock, and soil back into excavated pits once mineral reserves are exhausted. This practice prevents landscape scarring, eliminates hazardous open pits, and enables progressive land reclamation for afforestation.

76. (B) I, II, and IV only
Unregulated mining activities severely impact the environment by obstructing natural river drainage, stripping forest cover in the Aravallis, and generating high levels of fugitive airborne dust. Far from recharging groundwater, unscientific excavation damages underlying aquifers, accelerates topsoil erosion, and lowers regional water tables across vulnerable mining districts in the state.

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77. (A) Dimensional stones
Rajasthan holds a leading position in global export markets for value-added dimensional stones. Endowed with vast reserves of marble, sandstone, granite, and slate, the state houses advanced processing infrastructure. Polished stone slabs, decorative tiles, and carved stone architectural elements are exported globally to countries across Europe, Asia, and North America.

78. (C) Zinc
Zinc is the premier non-ferrous base metal mined and refined extensively in Rajasthan, establishing India as a notable global supplier. Facilities operated by Hindustan Zinc Limited in Chanderiya and Debari process high-grade sulfide ores from Rampura-Agucha and Zawar, producing refined zinc ingots that satisfy domestic demand while driving significant international export trade.

79. (D) Garnet and Emerald
The export potential of Rajasthan's world-renowned gem and jewelry industry in Jaipur is historically rooted in regional gem mining. Natural occurrences of colored gemstones, specifically garnet from Tonk and emerald from the Deogarh-Kala Guman belt, provided raw gemstones that fostered traditional cutting, faceting, and gemstone polishing craft networks.

80. (C) Emerald
Kala Guman and Tikhi, located along the Rajsamand-Udaipur mineral belt, are historically famous for the discovery of gem-grade emerald deposits. Emerald mineralization occurs in pegmatites intruded into ultrabasic rocks along structural shear zones. These locations define the

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61. (A) Drone and satellite monitoring
To combat unauthorized mining activities across vast remote terrains, the Rajasthan government deploys modern remote sensing technologies, including drone surveys and high-resolution satellite imagery. These aerial monitoring techniques enable real-time spatial analysis, precise volumetric change detection in quarries, and effective identification of illegal excavation beyond designated lease boundaries.

62. (C) River Sand
River sand, locally termed 'Bajri', has been subjected to severe illegal mining across riverbeds in Rajasthan, causing ecological harm and aquatic habitat destruction. Strict judicial interventions by courts prompted the state government to enforce regulations and actively promote Manufactured Sand as a sustainable, eco-friendly alternative for urban construction.

63. (D) Jasper, Selenite, and Wollastonite
Rajasthan holds an absolute hundred percent production monopoly in India for jasper, selenite, and wollastonite. These minerals occur in unique geological settings across the state. Wollastonite is used in ceramics, selenite in high-purity plaster, and jasper as a decorative stone, making Rajasthan the sole domestic source for these resources.

64. (C) P-1, Q-2, R-1, S-4
Rajasthan's national rank in mineral production varies by mineral type. The state holds first rank in lead-zinc ores and phosphorite (rock phosphate) production due to massive deposits like Rampura-Agucha and Jhamarkotra. It ranks second nationally in copper ore production behind Madhya Pradesh, while occupying a minor rank in iron ore output.

65. (B) Madhya Pradesh
While Rajasthan ranks second in domestic copper ore production primarily due to the Khetri belt, Madhya Pradesh holds the first position in India. The Malanjkhand copper deposit in Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh represents the single largest open-pit copper mine in the country, generating the highest total copper ore volume.

66. (D) Barmer
Barmer district is the leading producer of bentonite clay in Rajasthan. Bentonite is an absorbent aluminum phyllosilicate clay formed by the weathering of volcanic ash in Tertiary sedimentary basins. Owing to its exceptional swelling and binding properties, Barmer bentonite is widely used in oil-well drilling muds, foundry molds, and civil engineering applications.

67. (A) Portland Cement
The Chittorgarh-Nimbahera corridor in southern Rajasthan hosts a massive concentration of Portland cement manufacturing plants. This industrial development is driven by extensive deposits of high-grade Vindhyan limestone, local availability of gypsum, and reliable power infrastructure, making the region one of the most prominent cement producing clusters in northern India.

68. (C) Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals
High-grade rock phosphate extracted from Jhamarkotra in Udaipur district serves as a fundamental backward raw material linkage for Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited. Located in Gadepan near Kota, this industrial complex utilizes processed phosphorite to manufacture complex phosphatic fertilizers essential for supporting agricultural productivity across western and central India.

69. (A) Ceramics and glass
Mining of high-purity feldspar and quartz from pegmatite intrusions in the Ajmer-Jaipur belt provides indispensable raw materials for the ceramics and glass industries. Feldspar lowers the melting temperature during ceramic firing, while silica quartz supplies the fundamental glass-forming matrix required to produce high-quality ceramic tiles, sanitaryware, and glass products.

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70. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Rajasthan possesses an internationally competitive, highly export-oriented stone processing industry. This commercial strength is directly supported by the state's extraordinary geological endowment of dimensional stones, including world-famous white and colored marbles, granites, sandstones, and slates. Modern processing technology enables local enterprises to export high-value finished stone products worldwide.

51. (A) I, III, IV, II
A sustainable mining project follows a clear chronological lifecycle. Initial geological prospecting and exploration identify ore bodies and estimate reserves. Next, physical mineral extraction occurs through surface or underground mining. Extracted ores then undergo beneficiation and processing to increase mineral purity. Finally, mine closure and ecological reclamation restore the landscape.

52. (C) 2019
Recognizing the severe health impact of occupational lung diseases on mineworkers, Rajasthan became the first Indian state to launch a comprehensive "Policy on Pneumoconiosis, Silicosis, and Asbestosis Prevention, Control, and Rehabilitation" in 2019. The policy guarantees financial assistance, medical relief, disability pensions, and systematic rehabilitation for affected workers.

53. (A) Severe depletion of groundwater tables and loss of forest cover
Unregulated mining along the ancient Aravalli hill range has severely impaired regional ecology by destroying dense forest cover and accelerating land degradation. Extensive excavation disrupts natural aquifer recharge zones, causing rapid groundwater depletion. Additionally, the destruction of hills weakens the natural topographic barrier preventing desert expansion into eastern agricultural plains.

54. (D) Non-Tax Revenue
In Rajasthan's annual state financial budget, royalties, dead rents, and surface fees collected from mineral and petroleum extraction are categorized under Non-Tax Revenue. Because these revenues represent payments for sovereign mineral rights rather than direct taxes on income or sales, they form a major non-tax fiscal income stream for the government.

55. (B) Work for the welfare and development of mining-affected areas
The District Mineral Foundation Trust is a statutory non-profit trust established in every mining district under central mining rules. Funded through mandatory contribution percentages paid by leaseholders, DMFT resources are dedicated exclusively to implementing socio-economic development, healthcare, clean drinking water, education, and environmental restoration projects in mining-affected local communities.

56. (C) Central Government under the MMDR Act
Royalty rates for major minerals in India are determined and notified exclusively by the Central Government under provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. Although state governments collect these royalties, the power to fix, revise, or modify major mineral royalty rates resides solely with the central ministry.

57. (D) Udaipur
Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited, a premier public sector enterprise of the State Government, maintains its corporate registered office in Udaipur. Positioned near major rock phosphate and base metal deposits, RSMML operates strategic commercial mining projects across Rajasthan, driving state-led development of essential industrial and agricultural mineral resources.

58. (D) I, II, and III
Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited was established to foster scientific and economical mineral exploitation across the state. The corporation maintains absolute dominance in extracting high-grade rock phosphate from Jhamarkotra and manages key open-cast lignite mining projects in western Rajasthan to supply fuel for thermal power generation facilities.

59. (B) Barmer
The Giral lignite mining operations managed by Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited are located in the Barmer district of western Rajasthan. Giral features Tertiary lignite deposits utilized for mine-mouth thermal power generation, representing an important component of the state's thermal energy infrastructure and regional industrial development.

60. (B) e-Ravanna
To prevent illegal mining and trace mineral transportation, the Department of Mines and Geology in Rajasthan implemented the 'e-Ravanna' system. This web-based digital transit pass application generates electronic dispatch permits, ensuring real-time monitoring of mineral quantities, automated royalty verification, and improved transparency across state transport check posts.

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famous "Emerald Belt" of Rajasthan, celebrated for producing fine green gemstones.

81. (A) I and II only
In Rajasthan, gold reserves have been verified in the Anandpuri-Bhukia area of Banswara district within Precambrian metamorphic rocks. Additionally, silver is extracted in substantial quantities as a valuable by-product during lead-zinc ore smelting. However, Karnataka, not Rajasthan, remains the largest producer of primary gold ore in India.

82. (D) Lignite Coal
Kapurdi, Jalipa, and Giral are prominent geographic mining locations in the Barmer district of western Rajasthan, containing extensive Tertiary lignite coal deposits. These low-rank coal reserves are systematically extracted via open-cast mining methods to fuel nearby thermal power generation stations, supporting regional electricity generation across the state.

83. (A) Asbestos
Asbestos, a fibrous silicate mineral once extracted in Udaipur and Dungarpur districts, is now severely restricted and banned from commercial mining. Inhalation of microscopic asbestos fibers causes fatal occupational health conditions, including asbestosis, lung cancer, and mesothelioma, prompting regulatory bans to safeguard human health and environmental welfare.

84. (C) Bhilwara
Bhilwara district is historically celebrated as Rajasthan's "Mica City" or "Abhrak Nagari." The region features extensive pegmatite belts hosting commercial deposits of muscovite mica. Historically, Bhilwara was a premier center for mining, processing, and exporting mica sheets used for electrical insulation, heat resistance, and industrial manufacturing applications.

85. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Mining areas in Rajasthan correspond to specific mineral occurrences. Kolihan in Jhunjhunu is a vital copper mining area within the Khetri belt. Rajpura-Dariba in Rajsamand produces lead-zinc ores. Saladipura in Sikar is famous for massive pyrite deposits, whereas Lilawani in Banswara district is known for manganese ore extraction.

86. (D) Pyrite
The Saladipura region in Sikar district contains major reserves of iron pyrite, an iron sulfide mineral. Pyrite deposits hosted in Delhi Supergroup metamorphic rocks serve as an important source of sulfur, primarily utilized to produce sulphuric acid required for industrial chemical manufacturing and phosphatic fertilizer processing across the country.

87. (B) Manganese
Lilawani and Talwara, located in Banswara district, are the chief mining centers for manganese ore in Rajasthan. Manganese mineralization in this southern district is hosted within Precambrian Aravalli metamorphic phyllites and quartzites. The extracted manganese ore is utilized in metallurgical processes, particularly for manufacturing steel alloys and dry batteries.

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88. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Commercial asbestos mining in Rajasthan has been halted due to severe health concerns. Inhaling airborne asbestos fibers causes incurable respiratory diseases such as asbestosis and mesothelioma. Because of these established health hazards, environmental and safety regulations enforced strict prohibitions on asbestos extraction, directly justifying the total cessation of mining.

89. (A) Udaipur > Jaisalmer > Banswara
In terms of historical importance and volume of rock phosphate reserves in Rajasthan, Udaipur district occupies the topmost rank due to massive deposits at Jhamarkotra, Maton, and Kanpur. Jaisalmer district follows next with notable phosphorite occurrences at Birmania, while Banswara district contains smaller reserves around the Sallopat mining sector.

90. (B) I, III, and IV only
The mining sector is crucial to Rajasthan's socio-economic landscape. It supplies vital raw materials to major cement, fertilizer, and glass industries while establishing a global presence in dimensional stones. Mineral royalties contribute significantly—far beyond one percent—to non-tax revenues, and DMFT funds actively improve local health and educational infrastructure.

specified project period
(D) Lifetime complete exemption from paying the state GST

19. The "Green Energy Corridor" project in Rajasthan is primarily designed to address which specific challenge in the energy sector?
(A) Upgrading transmission infrastructure to evacuate renewable energy
(B) Planting dense tree belts around thermal power plants to absorb carbon dioxide emissions
(C) Systematically replacing all active coal-based power plants with utility-scale solar parks
(D) Providing heavy subsidies for electric vehicles used in municipal public transport

20. Consider the following statements regarding the challenges faced by the energy sector in Rajasthan:
I. High transmission and distribution (T&D) losses in rural feeders.
II. Scarcity of water limiting the cooling capacity of thermal power plants.
III. Intermittency and grid stability issues due to high renewable energy penetration.
IV. Complete lack of land availability for new utility-scale solar parks.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, III and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

21. Which digital platform serves as the central implementation and tracking mechanism for residential consumers applying for rooftop solar subsidies in Rajasthan under the national scheme?
(A) National Portal for Rooftop Solar
(B) Rajasthan Single Window Clearance System
(C) RREC Energy Dashboard
(D) PM KUSUM State Portal

22. What are the two most prominent sources of raw material utilized by biomass power plants functioning in rural Rajasthan?
(A) Agricultural sugarcane bagasse and paddy rice husk
(B) Field wheat stubble and processed bamboo waste
(C) Dry cotton stalks and crushed groundnut shells
(D) Mustard husk and Juliflora

23. What is Rajasthan's position among Indian states in terms of total installed solar power capacity?
(A) Second
(B) First
(C) Third
(D) Fourth

24. The Adani Renewable Energy Park Rajasthan Ltd (AREPRL), which develops large-scale solar parks in the state, is a joint venture between the Adani Group and which state entity?
(A) Rajasthan State Electricity Board (RSEB)
(B) Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RVUNL)
(C) Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RREC)
(D) Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO)

25. Which of the following is the correct decreasing sequence of renewable energy sources in Rajasthan according to their total installed capacity?
(A) Solar Energy, Wind Energy, Biomass Energy, Small Hydro Power
(B) Wind Energy, Solar Energy, Small Hydro Power, Biomass Energy
(C) Solar Energy, Biomass Energy, Wind Energy, Small Hydro Power
(D) Solar Energy, Wind Energy, Small Hydro Power, Biomass Energy

26. Which of the following statements regarding the traditional energy base of Rajasthan is incorrect?
(A) Rajasthan operates no local thermal power plants, importing 100% power.
(B) The state has historically relied very heavily on coal and lignite reserves for its base-load power.
(C) The state possesses vast and commercially significant reserves of Tertiary period lignite deposits.
(D) Local natural gas resources also contribute significantly to the state's thermal power generation capacity.

27. The Giral Lignite Thermal Power Project in Barmer is notable for being the first power plant in Rajasthan to use which advanced combustion technology?
(A) Pulverized Coal Firing

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10. Consider the following statements regarding the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station:
Assertion (A): The Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS) at Rawatbhata primarily utilizes Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs).
Reason (R): PHWR technology relies on highly enriched uranium as fuel and ordinary light water as a neutron moderator.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

11. Which of the following states is the sole beneficiary of the hydroelectric power generated by the Mahi Bajaj Sagar Project?
(A) Gujarat
(B) Rajasthan
(C) Madhya Pradesh
(D) Maharashtra

12. The Rajasthan Solar Energy Policy 2019 set a target to install a specific capacity of solar power by the financial year 2024-25. What was this target?
(A) 15 GW
(B) 30 GW
(C) 45 GW
(D) 50 GW

13. Which central government scheme was primarily responsible for driving the mandate of universal household electrification in rural and urban areas of Rajasthan?
(A) Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (Saubhagya)
(B) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM KUSUM)
(C) Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY)
(D) Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY)

14. Under the PM KUSUM scheme operating in Rajasthan, what is the specific objective of Component A?
(A) Installation of standalone off-grid solar-powered water pumps for agricultural irrigation
(B) Solarization of existing grid-connected agricultural pumps for individual farmers
(C) Setting up decentralized ground-mounted grid-connected solar plants up to 2 MW
(D) Providing subsidized rooftop solar power panels to rural residential households

15. Consider the following oil fields located in the Barmer-Sanchor Basin of Rajasthan:
I. Mangala
II. Bhagyam
III. Aishwarya
Which of the combinations given above represents commercially producing oil fields discovered by Cairn Energy?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

16. In which sedimentary basin of Rajasthan are the majority of the state's commercial natural gas reserves, including the Ramgarh gas fields, concentrated?
(A) Barmer-Sanchor Basin
(B) Bikaner-Nagaur Basin
(C) Jaisalmer Basin
(D) Vindhyan Basin

17. The Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RREC) was formed in 2002 by merging which two existing state agencies?
(A) Rajasthan State Electricity Board (RSEB) and Rajasthan Energy Development Agency (REDA)
(B) Rajasthan Energy Development Agency (REDA) and Rajasthan State Power Corporation Ltd (RSPCL)
(C) Rajasthan Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited (RVPNL) and Rajasthan Energy Development Agency (REDA)
(D) Rajasthan State Power Corporation Ltd (RSPCL) and Rajasthan Solar Park Development Company Limited

18. Which of the following statements incorrectly describes a government incentive typically offered to renewable energy investors under the Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme (RIPS)?
(A) Full exemption on electricity duty for a specified development period
(B) 100% exemption on stamp duty for land purchase or long-term lease
(C) Complete exemption on state land tax for a

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(A) 10.50%
(B) 15.22%
(C) 25.50%
(D) 50.00%

36. Which of the following is a primary objective of promoting "Wind-Solar Hybrid" power projects under Rajasthan's energy policies?
(A) To completely eliminate the operational need for conventional thermal power plants across the entire state
(B) To strictly separate wind and solar power generation facilities into entirely different geographical zones
(C) To lower renewable energy variability and optimize transmission grid utilization
(D) To mandate the exclusive deployment of imported solar panels combined with domestic wind turbines

37. Under the rural electrification framework, what specific structural improvement was targeted by the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) in Rajasthan's villages?
(A) Separating agricultural and non-agricultural feeders for reliable power supply
(B) Providing completely free and unmetered electricity connections to all rural residential households
(C) Replacing all existing grid-connected agricultural pumps with standalone diesel-powered generators
(D) Handing over state rural grid maintenance and billing operations exclusively to private foreign companies

38. Consider the following components of the PM KUSUM scheme operating in Rajasthan:
I. Component A: Decentralized ground-mounted grid-connected solar power plants.
II. Component B: Installation of standalone solar-powered agriculture pumps.
III. Component C: Solarization of existing grid-connected agriculture pumps.
Which of the combinations given above is correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

39. In which year was the Mangala oil field discovered in the Barmer district of Rajasthan?
(A) 1995
(B) 1999
(C) 2004
(D) 2010

40. The Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Station was established to utilize natural gas reserves found in the local basin. In which district is this power station located?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Barmer
(C) Jaisalmer
(D) Bikaner

41. In which year was the Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RREC) established to act as the state nodal agency for renewable energy development?
(A) 1995
(B) 1999
(C) 2002
(D) 2011

42. Identify the incorrect pair regarding the ownership/operator of the following energy assets in Rajasthan:
(A) Rawatbhata Nuclear Power Station - National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)
(B) Barsingsar Thermal Power Station - NLC India Limited
(C) Suratgarh Super Thermal Power Station - Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RVUNL)
(D) Anta Gas Power Plant - National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)

43. Consider the following incentives provided under the Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme (RIPS) for new renewable energy projects:
I. 100% exemption on stamp duty for land purchase or lease.
II. 100% exemption on electricity duty for a specified period.
III. Capital subsidy equal to 80% of the total project cost for all private developers.
IV. Exemption from land tax for a specified period.
Which of the combinations given above is correct?
(A) I, II and IV only
(B) II, III and IV only
(C) I, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

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(B) Circulating Fluidized Bed Combustion (CFBC)
(C) Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC)
(D) Ultra-Supercritical Technology

28. Match the following administrative bodies/ schemes (List I) with their primary focus areas in Rajasthan's energy sector (List II):
List I: (Scheme / Administrative Body)
P. PM KUSUM
Q. Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana
R. Saubhagya Scheme
S. DDUGJY
List II: (Focus Area)
1. Rooftop solar installations for residential households
2. Solarization of agriculture pumps and rural plants
3. Universal household electricity connections
4. Separation of agriculture and non-agriculture feeders in rural networks
(A) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(B) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

29. In the context of Rajasthan's thermal power sector, what defines a "supercritical" thermal power plant compared to a subcritical one?
(A) It operates above water's critical temperature and pressure, raising efficiency.
(B) It operates entirely on imported high-grade anthracite coal imported from foreign commercial markets.
(C) It generates absolutely zero direct carbon emissions during its entire power production process.
(D) It relies exclusively on sea water transported inland for cooling purposes instead of freshwater.

30. The "Solar Enterprise Zone" (SEZ) concept was developed to promote solar power in western Rajasthan. Which of the following districts is NOT typically considered a core part of this specific three-district SEZ triangle?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Jaisalmer
(C) Bikaner
(D) Barmer

31. The Bhadla Solar Park in Rajasthan was developed in multiple phases. Which state government joint venture was primarily responsible for developing Phase III (1000 MW) of the park?
(A) Rajasthan Solar Park Development Company Ltd (RSDCL)
(B) Adani Renewable Energy Park Rajasthan Ltd (AREPRL)
(C) Essel Surya Urja Company of Rajasthan Ltd (ESSCL)
(D) Saurya Urja Company of Rajasthan Ltd (SUCRL)

32. The Rajasthan Wind and Hybrid Energy Policy 2019 was introduced to optimally utilize wind and solar resources. What specific target for standalone wind power capacity addition did this policy set for the year 2024-25?
(A) 2000 MW
(B) 4000 MW
(C) 6000 MW
(D) 10000 MW

33. Consider the following statements regarding wind energy in Jaisalmer:
Assertion (A): The district of Jaisalmer is often referred to as the wind energy capital of Rajasthan.
Reason (R): Jaisalmer features a vast, flat desert terrain that facilitates high wind speed density optimal for commercial wind turbine operations.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

34. The Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS) has been undergoing expansion. What is the individual installed capacity of Units 7 and 8 at Rawatbhata?
(A) 220 MW each
(B) 500 MW each
(C) 700 MW each
(D) 1000 MW each

35. Rajasthan shares the hydroelectric power generated by the Bhakra Nangal multi-purpose river valley project. What is Rajasthan's officially allocated percentage share of power from this project?

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CHAPTER 21
Energy Resources of Rajasthan

1. Which of the following renewable energy sources currently holds the highest installed power generation capacity in Rajasthan?
(A) Wind Energy
(B) Solar Energy
(C) Biomass Energy
(D) Small Hydro Power

2. The Kapurdi and Jalipa mining areas are critically important for the energy sector of Rajasthan. What do these mines primarily produce to feed local thermal power projects?
(A) High-grade Anthracite coal
(B) Natural Gas
(C) Uranium ore
(D) Lignite (Brown coal)

3. Which of the following lignite mining blocks is incorrectly matched with its respective district in Rajasthan?
(A) Merta Road - Jodhpur
(B) Barsingsar - Bikaner
(C) Gurha - Bikaner
(D) Giral - Barmer

4. Which of the following is NOT a Super Critical Thermal Power Station in Rajasthan?
(A) Suratgarh Super Critical Thermal Power Station
(B) Chhabra Super Critical Thermal Power Station
(C) Giral Lignite Thermal Power Station
(D) Kalisindh Super Critical Thermal Power Station

5. Match the following energy projects in Rajasthan (List I) with their respective locations or districts (List II):
List I: (Energy Project)
P. Amarsagar Wind Plant
Q. Rawatbhata Nuclear Plant
R. Anta Gas Plant
S. Suratgarh Thermal Plant
List II: (Location / District)
1. Sri Ganganagar
2. Baran
3. Chittorgarh
4. Jaisalmer
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1

6. Which geographical and climatic factors primarily contribute to Rajasthan's solar energy potential?
(A) Extensive inland canal networks combined with high humidity levels
(B) High altitude mountainous terrain subject to heavy seasonal monsoons
(C) Dense tropical scrub forests located in proximity to the Tropic of Cancer
(D) High Direct Normal Irradiance (DNI) and over 325 clear sunny days annually

7. What is the total installed capacity of the Bhadla Solar Park located in the Jodhpur district?
(A) 1500 MW
(B) 2000 MW
(C) 2245 MW
(D) 3000 MW

8. What specific geographical advantage does western Rajasthan offer for wind energy generation compared to other regions of the state?
(A) Mountainous valleys and high-altitude passes that act as natural wind tunnels
(B) Coastal proximity bringing strong, consistent, and predictable sea breezes
(C) Flat desert terrain with low surface roughness allowing high wind speeds
(D) High-pressure atmospheric zones created by dense, tall forest vegetation

9. Where was Rajasthan's first wind power project established in the year 1999?
(A) Devgarh, Pratapgarh
(B) Bithdi, Jodhpur
(C) Phalodi, Jodhpur
(D) Amarsagar, Jaisalmer

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44. Which state-owned utility is primarily responsible for managing and expanding the extra-high voltage energy transmission infrastructure in Rajasthan?
(A) Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited (JVVNL)
(B) Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited (RVPNL)
(C) Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RVUNL)
(D) Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RREC / State Agency)

45. What poses the most significant technical challenge to the electrical grid operators in Rajasthan due to the state's massive addition of solar and wind power?
(A) Grid instability due to variable renewable energy output
(B) Excessive greenhouse gas emissions released during the operation of solar PV panels
(C) Prohibitively high financial costs of raw fuel required to continuously operate wind turbines
(D) Widespread lack of commercial consumer demand for green and renewable electricity

46. Under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana launched to promote rooftop solar, up to how many units of free electricity per month are targeted for eligible households?
(A) 100 units
(B) 200 units
(C) 300 units
(D) 500 units

47. The Padampur biomass power plant, which utilizes agricultural residue for power generation, is situated in which district of Rajasthan known for high agricultural output?
(A) Jaisalmer
(B) Rajsamand
(C) Dungarpur
(D) Sri Ganganagar

48. Arrange the following Indian states in descending order based on their total installed solar power capacity:
1. Karnataka
2. Rajasthan
3. Gujarat
4. Tamil Nadu

Which of the options given below represents the correct sequence?
(A) 2, 3, 1, 4
(B) 2, 1, 3, 4
(C) 3, 2, 4, 1
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4

49. To combat the intermittent nature of renewable energy, the Rajasthan government has begun promoting ESS. In the context of energy policy, what does ESS stand for?
(A) Energy Standardization Strategy
(B) Energy Storage Systems
(C) Ecological Solar System
(D) Electrical Supply Synchronization

50. The Rajasthan Green Hydrogen Policy 2023 was introduced to position the state as a producer of clean fuel. What specific production target of green hydrogen does this policy aim to achieve by the year 2030?
(A) 500 kilotonnes per annum (KTPA)
(B) 1000 kilotonnes per annum (KTPA)
(C) 2000 kilotonnes per annum (KTPA)
(D) 5000 kilotonnes per annum (KTPA)

51. Match the following multi-purpose river valley/ hydro projects (List I) with Rajasthan's respective power sharing percentage (List II):
List I: (Project)
P. Chambal Valley Project
Q. Mahi Bajaj Sagar Project
R. Bhakra Nangal Project
S. Vyas (Pong Dam) Project
List II: (Share Percentage)
1. 100% (Power allocated to Rajasthan)
2. 50%
3. 15.22%
4. 58.5%
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(D) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

52. The lignite extracted from the Barmer and Bikaner basins in Rajasthan generally belongs to which geological period, characterized by high moisture and sulfur content?
(A) Carboniferous period
(B) Permian period
(C) Tertiary period
(D) Quaternary period

53. NLC India Limited, a central public sector enterprise, operates a major lignite mine and

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petroleum exploration, production monitoring, and advising the government on hydrocarbon policies in Rajasthan?
(A) Directorate of Mines and Geology (DMG)
(B) Directorate of Petroleum (DoP), Rajasthan
(C) Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited (RSMML)
(D) Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RREC)

88. Consider the following major petroliferous sedimentary basins located within Rajasthan:
I. Barmer-Sanchor Basin
II. Jaisalmer Basin
III. Bikaner-Nagaur Basin
IV. Vindhyan Basin
Which of the combinations given above is correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, III and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

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89. Under Component C of the PM KUSUM scheme in Rajasthan, the government focuses on solarizing agriculture pumps. What is a key financial benefit for the farmer under this component?
(A) The farmer receives a fixed monthly cash salary directly from the state electricity distribution board
(B) The farmer is permanently exempted from paying all municipal land taxes and state agricultural income taxes
(C) The farmer receives free annual fuel allocations of diesel for powering back-up agricultural generators
(D) Earning extra income by selling surplus solar power to DISCOMs

90. Arrange the four phases of the Bhadla Solar Park development in ascending order based strictly on their designated installed capacities (from lowest capacity to highest capacity):
1. Phase I (developed by RSDCL)
2. Phase II (developed by RSDCL)
3. Phase III (developed by SUCRL)
4. Phase IV (developed by AREPRL)
Which of the options given below represents the correct sequence?
(A) 1, 2, 4, 3
(B) 1, 4, 2, 3
(C) 4, 1, 2, 3
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4

(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

62. Which central scheme, active in Rajasthan, aims to improve the operational efficiencies and financial sustainability of state-owned power distribution companies (DISCOMs) through smart metering and infrastructure upgrades?
(A) Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Financial Inclusion Yojana (PMJDY)
(B) National Solar Power Mission Development Framework (NSM)
(C) Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS)
(D) Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan Scheme (GOBARdhan)

63. What role does the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) play in the context of Rajasthan's solar energy mission?
(A) It directly manufactures high-efficiency solar photovoltaic panels and mounting structures locally in Jaipur factories.
(B) It disburses direct capital cash subsidies to large commercial manufacturing factories establishing solar units.
(C) It manages the routine day-to-day electrical and physical maintenance of all private solar parks in the state.
(D) Central nodal agency implementing solar schemes, conducting auctions, and trading power.

64. The HPCL Rajasthan Refinery Limited (HRRL), located in Pachpadra, is a joint venture. What is the equity participation ratio between Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and the Government of Rajasthan?
(A) HPCL 50%, Government of Rajasthan 50%
(B) HPCL 74%, Government of Rajasthan 26%
(C) HPCL 26%, Government of Rajasthan 74%
(D) HPCL 90%, Government of Rajasthan 10%

65. To tap into unconventional natural gas resources, exploration activities in Rajasthan have focused on CBM. What does CBM stand for in the petroleum industry?
(A) Compressed Biogas Methane
(B) Coal Bed Methane
(C) Crude Basin Mixture
(D) Combustible Butane Methane

66. Consider the following functions and responsibilities associated with the Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RREC):
I. It acts as the State Nodal Agency for the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
II. It is directly responsible for the operation and maintenance of all thermal and nuclear power stations in the state.
III. It is the designated agency for implementing the state's Solar and Wind energy policies.
IV. It facilitates the registration, approval, and initial clearance of renewable energy projects.
Which of the combinations given above is correct?
(A) I, II and III only
(B) I, III and IV only
(C) II, III and IV only
(D) I, II, III and IV

67. Which of the following is the most accurate description of a "Net Metering" policy as implemented for rooftop solar setups in Rajasthan?
(A) Billing consumers for net grid electricity consumed after deducting solar power exported back.
(B) Mandating that all generated solar power must be sold directly to the state DISCOM at a fixed feed-in gross tariff rate.
(C) Requiring the consumer to pay a fixed monthly network grid access charge regardless of total solar energy produced or consumed.
(D) Requiring that the residential solar consumer is completely disconnected from the primary state electricity grid distribution network.

68. Under the state's renewable energy framework, what is the primary objective of the "Customized Package" of incentives cleared by the Board of Investment?
(A) To provide completely free electricity supply to all small and medium industrial manufacturing units
(B) To systematically nationalize and convert all privately owned wind farms into state-managed utilities
(C) To offer tailored financial concessions for mega renewable energy investments
(D) To permanently shut down all existing lignite coal mines and power plants operational across the state

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10. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors at Rawatbhata utilize natural uranium as nuclear fuel rather than enriched uranium, relying on heavy water (deuterium oxide) as both a neutron moderator and primary coolant. Consequently, the assertion describing reactor type usage is correct, whereas the explanation regarding fuel enrichment and light water moderator application is technically incorrect.

11. (B) Rajasthan
The Mahi Bajaj Sagar Project is an interstate river valley development venture between Rajasthan and Gujarat. Although the water rights of the reservoir are shared according to interstate agreements, 100 percent of the hydroelectric power generated from the powerhouse powerhouses built under this project is allocated exclusively to Rajasthan to supply electricity to southern districts.

12. (B) 30 GW
The Rajasthan Solar Energy Policy 2019 targeted a cumulative capacity of 30 gigawatts of solar power by FY 2024-25. This comprehensive target encompassed utility-scale solar parks, decentralized agricultural installations, rooftop solar systems, and canal-top projects, laying the regulatory framework to accelerate private investments and clean energy grid integration across the state.

13. (A) Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (Saubhagya)
The Saubhagya scheme was launched specifically to achieve universal household electrification by providing free or subsidized electricity connections to all un-electrified households across rural and urban locations. Through solar-based standalone systems for remote habitations and grid extensions elsewhere, the scheme successfully bridged final-mile energy distribution gaps throughout all districts in Rajasthan.

14. (C) Setting up decentralized ground-mounted grid-connected solar plants up to 2 MW
Component A of the PM KUSUM initiative focuses on setting up small decentralized, ground-mounted, or stilt-mounted grid-connected solar power plants with capacities ranging from 500 kW to 2 MW. Built by individual farmers, cooperatives, or developers on barren lands near rural sub-stations, these installations inject power directly into rural distribution networks.

15. (D) I, II and III
The Barmer-Sanchor basin in western Rajasthan houses major onshore crude oil discoveries including Mangala, Bhagyam, and Aishwarya fields, all discovered and operated commercially by Cairn Energy (now Vedanta Limited). Together, these contiguous hydrocarbon reservoirs contribute a substantial proportion of India's domestic crude production, establishing Rajasthan as a vital onshore oil producer.

16. (C) Jaisalmer Basin
The Jaisalmer Basin contains the vast majority of Rajasthan's natural gas reserves, including key producing fields such as Ramgarh, Manhera Tibba, and Tanot. Hydrocarbons in this sedimentary basin occur within Mesozoic and Tertiary sandstone structures, providing natural gas feedstock to support local power generation and industrial applications across the region.

17. (B) Rajasthan Energy Development Agency (REDA) and Rajasthan State Power Corporation Ltd (RSPCL)
The Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited was created in the year 2002 by amalgamating two former state entities: Rajasthan Energy Development Agency and Rajasthan State Power Corporation Limited. This operational merger successfully consolidated clean energy policy implementation, non-conventional resource planning, and renewable power project development under a single-window state nodal agency.

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18. (D) Lifetime complete exemption from paying the state GST
The Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme provides attractive fiscal incentives to clean energy developers, including high exemptions on stamp duty, electricity duty, and land tax for specified periods. However, a lifetime complete exemption from state GST is not granted, as GST concessions operate strictly within statutory dual-taxation guidelines set by state and national frameworks.

19. (A) Upgrading transmission infrastructure to evacuate renewable energy
The Green Energy Corridor project focuses on expanding extra-high voltage transmission

77. Which specific variety of lignite, known for being resinous and historically mined since the late 19th century, is found in the Palana region of Bikaner?
(A) Palana Lignite
(B) High-moisture Peat deposits
(C) Medium-grade Bituminous coal
(D) High-grade Anthracite coal

78. Which of the following is the primary source of raw water supplied to the Suratgarh Super Thermal Power Station for its cooling towers and operational needs?
(A) Seasonal flow of the Luni River basin
(B) Perennial flow from the Chambal River
(C) IGNP Canal Network
(D) Reservoir storage of the Bisalpur Dam

79. The Nokh Solar Park, developed by the Rajasthan Solar Park Development Company Ltd, is designed for what total installed capacity?
(A) 500 MW
(B) 925 MW
(C) 1500 MW
(D) 2245 MW

80. The first unit of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS) at Rawatbhata began commercial operations in 1973. It was built with the technical collaboration and assistance of which country?
(A) United States of America
(B) Soviet Union (Russia)
(C) Canada
(D) France

81. Consider the following statements regarding thermal power generation:
Assertion (A): Thermal power constitutes a completely carbon-neutral source of energy in Rajasthan's power grid.
Reason (R): Supercritical thermal power plants in Rajasthan use advanced technology to burn lignite more efficiently than older subcritical plants.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

82. According to assessments by the National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE), at a hub height of 120 meters, what is the estimated wind power potential of Rajasthan?
(A) ~18 GW
(B) ~50 GW
(C) ~142 GW
(D) ~500 GW

83. The third wind power project in Rajasthan was commissioned in 2003 in the Jodhpur district. What is the name of this location?
(A) Bithdi
(B) Phalodi
(C) Osian
(D) Pipar

84. Consider the following statements regarding nuclear power generation in Rajasthan:
I. The Rawatbhata site is India's second nuclear power station after Tarapur.
II. Rajasthan possesses significant indigenous uranium reserves currently being mined at Rohil (Khandela, Sikar) to support future nuclear self-reliance.
III. The operational nuclear reactors at Rawatbhata are cooled exclusively using sea water.
Which of the combinations given above is correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

85. What is Rajasthan's specific percentage share in the power generated from the Pong Dam (Vyas project)?
(A) 15.22%
(B) 20.00%
(C) 58.50%
(D) 100.00%

86. The Rajasthan Wind and Hybrid Energy Policy 2019 targeted the installation of what specific capacity of Wind-Solar Hybrid power projects by 2024-25?
(A) 1000 MW
(B) 2500 MW
(C) 3500 MW
(D) 5000 MW

87. Which state government department or directorate acts as the nodal agency for

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an associated 250 MW thermal power station in Rajasthan. Where is this facility located?
(A) Barsingsar
(B) Ramgarh
(C) Kapurdi
(D) Suratgarh

54. The Kalisindh Super Thermal Power Station, known for its cooling drafts, draws its water supply primarily from the Kalisindh river. In which district is it located?
(A) Baran
(B) Kota
(C) Bundi
(D) Jhalawar

55. In the context of solar energy potential assessment in Rajasthan, what does the term 'Direct Normal Irradiance' (DNI) measure?
(A) The average horizontal wind speed impacting the front glass surface of an installed solar panel
(B) Solar radiation per unit area on a surface perpendicular to direct sun rays
(C) The maximum ambient environmental temperature recorded directly surrounding the operational solar park
(D) The total percentage of high-frequency ultraviolet light radiation absorbed by the stratospheric ozone layer

56. Consider the following statements regarding the Bhadla Solar Park:
Assertion (A): The Bhadla Solar Park achieved some of the lowest solar power tariff rates in India during its capacity auctions.
Reason (R): The region's exceptionally high solar insolation, combined with plug-and-play infrastructure provided by nodal agencies, significantly lowered project risks and development costs.
Which of the following options is correct?
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

57. The Rajasthan government issued a specific policy to encourage the replacement of older, low-capacity wind turbines with newer, higher-capacity, and more efficient turbines. What is this process officially termed?
(A) Retrofitting Policy
(B) Reconditioning Framework
(C) Renewable Upgradation Scheme
(D) Repowering Policy

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58. Following the success of the Amarsagar wind power project, Rajasthan's second major wind power plant was established in 2001 at which location?
(A) Devgarh, Pratapgarh
(B) Bithdi, Jodhpur
(C) Phalodi, Jodhpur
(D) Nokh, Jaisalmer

59. The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) has proposed the construction of a new multi-unit atomic power project in Rajasthan, known as the Mahi Banswara Atomic Power Project. What reactor technology is planned for this site?
(A) Commercial Light Water Reactors (LWR) directly imported from foreign vendors in Russia
(B) Indigenous 700 MW Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR)
(C) Commercial sodium-cooled Fast Breeder Reactors (FBR)
(D) Advanced boiling water power reactor systems (BWR)

60. The hydroelectric power generated in the Chambal Valley Project is shared equally between Rajasthan and which other state?
(A) Gujarat
(B) Madhya Pradesh
(C) Haryana
(D) Uttar Pradesh

61. Consider the following statements regarding the Rajasthan Solar Energy Policy 2019:
I. It set an overall target of achieving 30 GW of solar power capacity by 2024-25.
II. It completely banned the development of solar parks by private developers without majority state ownership.
III. It provided a 100% exemption on electricity duty for a specified period for solar power projects.
Which of the combinations given above is correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only

ANSWERS

1. (B) Solar Energy
Solar power accounts for the largest share of installed renewable capacity in the state, driven by favorable topography, high global horizontal irradiance, and vast desert lands in western districts. Policy incentives, utility-scale solar parks like Bhadla, and decentralized agricultural solar installations under government schemes have significantly accelerated grid-connected solar power deployment over wind, biomass, and hydro capacity.

2. (D) Lignite (Brown coal)
The Kapurdi and Jalipa mining blocks in Barmer district possess massive reserves of Tertiary period lignite, commonly known as brown coal. These surface opencast mining projects were specifically developed to extract fuel for pithead power projects like the Giral and Raj West power stations, ensuring dedicated supply for continuous base-load thermal energy generation within Rajasthan.

3. (A) Merta Road - Jodhpur
Merta Road is an established lignite mining area located in Nagaur district rather than Jodhpur district. Rajasthan contains significant Tertiary lignite fields distributed across Nagaur, Bikaner, and Barmer. While Barsingsar and Gurha are correctly located in Bikaner, and Giral is in Barmer, Merta Road forms a vital part of the lignite belt running through Nagaur.

4. (C) Giral Lignite Thermal Power Station
Giral Lignite Thermal Power Station in Barmer utilizes Circulating Fluidized Bed Combustion technology to burn high-sulfur lignite and operates as a conventional subcritical plant. In contrast, Suratgarh, Chhabra, and Kalisindh feature modern supercritical generating units that operate at steam pressures exceeding water critical points to enhance overall thermodynamic efficiency and reduce emission intensity.

5. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
The major energy assets are geographically spread across specific districts of the state. Amarsagar wind project is located at Jaisalmer, the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station functions at Rawatbhata in Chittorgarh district, Anta gas-based power station operates in Baran district, and the Suratgarh thermal power generating station is established in Sri Ganganagar district.

6. (D) High Direct Normal Irradiance (DNI) and over 325 clear sunny days annually
Western Rajasthan features exceptional solar resource characteristics due to its desert environment, experiencing minimal cloud cover and receiving extremely high levels of Direct Normal Irradiance. More than 325 days of clear sunshine per year, coupled with low atmospheric humidity and unshaded flat terrain, create ideal conditions for high-yield solar photovoltaic and concentrated solar power generation.

7. (C) 2245 MW
Bhadla Solar Park, situated in the Jodhpur district, has a total commissioned capacity of 2245 megawatts spread over more than 14,000 acres. Developed in multiple phases through public-private partnerships and state joint ventures, it stands as one of the largest continuous single-location solar parks globally, serving as a hub for solar installations.

8. (C) Flat desert terrain with low surface roughness allowing high wind speeds
The vast open expanse of western Rajasthan possesses minimal tree cover and low surface roughness, enabling unimpeded airflow and higher kinetic wind speeds across desert regions. Flat terrain reduces turbulent friction, allowing wind turbines to harvest energy efficiently and making districts like Jaisalmer and Barmer prime locations for commercial utility-scale wind farm development.

9. (D) Amarsagar, Jaisalmer
The state's commercial wind energy sector began in August 1999 when the first wind power plant was established at Amarsagar in Jaisalmer district. Set up with initial support from the state nodal agency, this pioneer project proved the commercial viability of wind power in desert regions and initiated large-scale wind farm expansions across western districts.

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Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana achieves agricultural and non-agricultural feeder separation across rural distribution power networks.

29. (A) It operates above water's critical temperature and pressure, raising efficiency.
Supercritical power generation technology operates at steam pressures exceeding the thermodynamic critical point of water (22.06 MPa) and 374°C. Under these conditions, liquid water transitions instantly into steam without distinct boiling, achieving significantly higher thermal conversion efficiency, reducing fuel consumption per kilowatt-hour, and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions compared to subcritical units.

30. (C) Bikaner
The designated Solar Enterprise Zone concept initially identified the highly arid western desert region encompassing Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, and Barmer districts as the primary geographic triangle for intense solar development. Bikaner, while currently housing major solar installations and parks, was not classified within the original foundational three-district SEZ declaration policy framework.

31. (D) Saurya Urja Company of Rajasthan Ltd (SUCRL)
Phase III of the Bhadla Solar Park, comprising 1000 megawatts of solar power capacity, was developed by Saurya Urja Company of Rajasthan Limited. SUCRL is a joint venture company created between the Government of Rajasthan and IL&FS Energy Development Company Limited to develop land infrastructure, power evacuation facilities, and utility access.

32. (B) 4000 MW
The Rajasthan Wind and Hybrid Energy Policy 2019 aimed to leverage the state's substantial wind resource potential by targeting an addition of 4000 megawatts of standalone wind power capacity by FY 2024-25. This comprehensive policy framework established guidelines for repowering old turbines, grid integration, land allotment, and hybrid power project co-location.

33. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
Jaisalmer is recognized as the wind energy capital of Rajasthan due to its vast concentration of commercial wind farms. The region's open, flat desert topography, minimal obstacle roughness, and high velocity ambient wind streams provide optimal micro-siting conditions for commercial wind turbines, directly explaining its leadership in wind power generation.

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34. (C) 700 MW each
The expansion phase of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station at Rawatbhata includes Units 7 and 8, featuring indigenously designed 700 MW Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors. These advanced units incorporate enhanced passive safety features and containment systems, adding 1400 MW of nuclear capacity to meet base-load electricity demand across northern grid regions.

35. (B) 15.22%
Under interstate agreements governing the Bhakra Nangal multi-purpose river valley project built on the Sutlej river, Rajasthan is formally allocated a 15.22 percent share of the total hydroelectric power generated. This energy allocation is transmitted into the state grid through dedicated high-voltage transmission lines connecting powerhouses located at Bhakra and Nangal.

36. (C) To lower renewable energy variability and optimize transmission grid utilization
Wind-Solar Hybrid projects integrate solar panels and wind turbines at a shared location, taking advantage of complementary power generation profiles, with solar peak during daytime and wind peak during evenings. Co-location minimizes output variability, smooths clean energy supply, stabilizes grid frequencies, and optimizes the land footprint and evacuation transmission network capacity.

37. (A) Separating agricultural and non-agricultural feeders for reliable power supply
Under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana, a central focus in rural Rajasthan was the systematic segregation of agricultural and non-agricultural 11 kV supply feeders. Feeder separation enables rural distribution utilities to supply continuous, reliable power to residential households while managing regulated, scheduled

networks, grid substations, and evacuation infrastructure across utility-scale solar and wind producing zones. By enhancing grid capacity and inter-state power corridors, this initiative ensures smooth, reliable transmission of intermittent clean energy from generation hubs in western Rajasthan to high-demand load centers nationwide.

20. (A) I, II and III only
Key challenges in Rajasthan's power sector include elevated transmission losses across rural distribution networks, severe cooling water scarcity affecting thermal generation plants, and technical grid balancing issues from rising variable solar penetration. However, land scarcity is not a major bottleneck, as vast tracts of flat desert terrain remain available for development.

21. (A) National Portal for Rooftop Solar
The National Portal for Rooftop Solar serves as a single online clearinghouse for residential consumers applying for rooftop solar panel installation and financial subsidies. The portal streamlines vendor selection, technical feasibility approvals from local distribution utilities, meter installation tracking, and direct benefit transfer of central government subsidies straight into beneficiary bank accounts.

22. (D) Mustard husk and Juliflora
Biomass power generation in rural Rajasthan relies heavily on abundant local agricultural residue and invasive woody biomass. Mustard husk, derived from extensive rapeseed and mustard crop processing in agrarian districts, along with Prosopis juliflora, an invasive shrub widespread across arid lands, supply the primary raw organic feedstock required for fueling grid-connected biomass combustion power plants.

23. (B) First
Rajasthan holds the premier position among all Indian states in total installed solar power generation capacity. Thanks to favorable renewable energy development policies, extensive solar park infrastructure, high clear sky days, and immense desert land availability, the state has outpaced other leading renewable energy states like Gujarat and Karnataka in solar deployments.

24. (C) Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RREC)
Adani Renewable Energy Park Rajasthan Limited operates as a joint venture enterprise established between Adani Renewable Energy Park Limited and the state nodal entity, Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited. Formed under a public-private framework, this joint venture develops mega solar parks and grid evacuation infrastructure across suitable locations in western desert districts.

25. (A) Solar Energy, Wind Energy, Biomass Energy, Small Hydro Power
Rajasthan's renewable energy capacity landscape is predominantly led by solar energy, followed by wind energy. Biomass energy forms the third largest component through agricultural and plant-waste combustion projects, while small hydro power holds the smallest installed share due to the state's limited perennial surface water flow and semi-arid geographical conditions.

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26. (A) Rajasthan operates no local thermal power plants, importing 100% power.
Rajasthan possesses an extensive domestic thermal energy foundation supported by multiple active coal and lignite power stations across Suratgarh, Kota, Chhabra, Kalisindh, Giral, and Barsingsar. The state generates significant power internally from indigenous lignite deposits and imported coal allocations rather than relying entirely on importing energy from outside state sources.

27. (B) Circulating Fluidized Bed Combustion (CFBC)
Giral Lignite Thermal Power Station in Barmer was pioneering in adopting Circulating Fluidized Bed Combustion technology. This specialized combustion technique allows efficient burning of low-grade Tertiary lignite characterized by high moisture content, high sulfur levels, and low calorific value while minimizing sulfur dioxide emissions through limestone mixing directly inside the boiler bed.

28. (B) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
Various government initiatives target specific power sector objectives: PM KUSUM focuses on solarizing agriculture pumps and rural power plants; PM Surya Ghar promotes residential rooftop solar installations; Saubhagya drives universal household electrification; and Deen

69. Phase-I and Phase-II of the Green Energy Corridor in Rajasthan are heavily funded by external multilateral agencies. Which international financial institution has been a major funder of the transmission network under this corridor?
(A) KfW Development Bank (Germany)
(B) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
(C) World Health Organization (WHO)
(D) Federal Reserve Bank

70. Which of the following is the correct order of power generation sources in Rajasthan based strictly on their long-term historical base-load reliability and continuous availability (Plant Load Factor), from highest to lowest?
(A) Nuclear Power, Thermal Power, Solar Power, Wind Power
(B) Solar Power, Wind Power, Nuclear Power, Thermal Power
(C) Wind Power, Solar Power, Thermal Power, Nuclear Power
(D) Thermal Power, Solar Power, Nuclear Power, Wind Power

71. In rural Rajasthan, the GOBARdhan scheme is being implemented to harness bio-energy. What is the primary focus of this scheme?
(A) Providing large capital financial subsidies to small farmers for purchasing high-yield crossbred dairy cows
(B) Converting cattle dung and organic waste into biogas and manure
(C) Establishing massive, centralized coal-fired power plants across rural villages to generate cheap electricity
(D) Distributing completely free LPG cooking gas cylinders to all designated below-poverty-line rural families

72. Which of the following statements about Rajasthan's contribution to India's national renewable energy capacity is correct?
(A) Rajasthan contributes less than 5% to the national solar capacity.
(B) Rajasthan has the highest installed capacity of offshore wind energy in India.
(C) Rajasthan ranks first nationally in total installed solar power capacity.
(D) Rajasthan relies entirely on importing green power from neighboring states to meet its state Renewable Purchase Obligations (RPO).

73. Which of the following is considered a major bottleneck for private sector investors looking to establish new utility-scale solar projects in western Rajasthan?
(A) A severe lack of sufficient annual sunlight and solar radiation across desert districts
(B) Continuous excessive seasonal rainfall resulting in severe flooding of ground-mounted solar panels
(C) Total unavailability of loose sandy soil required for structural foundations of utility-scale solar plants
(D) Delays in land acquisition and transmission right-of-way

74. Match the following solar parks in Rajasthan (List I) with their respective districts (List II):
List I: (Solar Park)
P. Nokh Solar Park
Q. Phalodi-Pokhran Solar Park
R. Pugal Solar Park
S. Bhadla Solar Park
List II: (District)
1. Jodhpur
2. Jaisalmer
3. Bikaner
4. Jointly in Jodhpur and Jaisalmer
(A) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-4, S-3

75. To support grid balancing and utilize surplus solar power generated during the day, the Rajasthan energy roadmap emphasizes Pumped Hydro Storage Projects (PSP). Which of the following locations in Rajasthan is identified as having potential for a PSP?
(A) Deep interior regions of the Thar Desert sand dunes
(B) Jawai Dam and Shahpur
(C) Surrounding saline wetlands of the Sambhar Salt Lake
(D) Protected ecological reserves of Keoladeo National Park

76. Approximately what percentage of Rajasthan's total installed power capacity is currently derived from renewable energy sources (Solar, Wind, Biomass)?
(A) Around 10-15%
(B) Around 20-25%
(C) More than 45%
(D) Exactly 100%

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daytime power cycles for agricultural irrigation pump sets.

38. (D) I, II and III
The PM KUSUM framework operates across three distinct sub-components: Component A promotes small decentralized ground-mounted solar power plants up to 2 MW; Component B facilitates the deployment of standalone off-grid solar agriculture pumps; and Component C supports the solarization of individual grid-connected agricultural pumps, allowing farmers to export excess power.

39. (C) 2004
Commercial crude oil exploration achieved a historic breakthrough in January 2004 with the discovery of the major Mangala oil field in Barmer district. Discovered by Cairn Energy, Mangala represented one of the largest onshore oil discoveries in India in decades, leading to commercial petroleum production and establishing western Rajasthan as a major hub.

40. (C) Jaisalmer
The Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Station is situated in Jaisalmer district. Developed to utilize domestic natural gas reserves extracted from nearby fields within the Jaisalmer basin, this combined-cycle power station supplies clean, flexible gas-based power to the state grid, aiding local power distribution and system stability across western desert regions.

41. (C) 2002
Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited was formally incorporated in 2002 under the Companies Act as the designated nodal administrative agency. Formed through the merger of REDA and RSPCL, RREC acts as the primary agency for facilitating policy frameworks, project registration, land allotment, and renewable development under Ministry of New and Renewable Energy guidelines.

42. (A) Rawatbhata Nuclear Power Station - National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)
Rawatbhata Nuclear Power Station is owned, operated, and maintained by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited, a central public sector enterprise under the Department of Atomic Energy, rather than NTPC. The other matched facilities accurately represent the state or central enterprise responsible for their operational management and thermal generation assets.

43. (A) I, II and IV only
The Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme provides attractive fiscal benefits for clean energy infrastructure, including 100 percent exemptions on stamp duty, electricity duty, and state land tax for specified implementation periods. However, it does not provide direct cash capital subsidies covering 80 percent of project costs, making statements I, II, and IV correct.

44. (B) Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited (RVPNL)
Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited is the state transmission utility responsible for planning, building, operating, and maintaining the extra-high voltage electricity transmission grid (66 kV and above). RVPNL facilitates bulk power evacuation from generation plants and delivers electricity to regional distribution companies and major industrial consumers across the state.

45. (A) Grid instability due to variable renewable energy output
Rapid expansion of solar and wind energy introduces high supply variability into Rajasthan's power grid, creating operational challenges for grid frequency maintenance and voltage stability. Fluctuations caused by passing clouds or sudden drops in wind velocity necessitate advanced grid management, dynamic load dispatch, grid interconnections, and energy storage systems to maintain stability.

46. (C) 300 units
Under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, eligible residential households installing rooftop solar systems receive financial central assistance to access up to 300 units of free electricity every month. The scheme lowers household electricity bills, encourages distributed urban solar adoption, and permits households to export surplus generation back to DISCOM grids.

47. (D) Sri Ganganagar
The Padampur biomass power plant is located in Sri Ganganagar district, a prominent agricultural zone known for extensive canal-irrigated crop cultivation. The power station burns crop residues, primarily mustard stalk and agricultural stubble, transforming agricultural

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(B) The largest habitat for the Indian Leopard
(C) The first national park in India to successfully breed rhinos
(D) A highly dense semi-evergreen forest unique to Rajasthan

30. Consider the following statements regarding the Sariska Tiger Reserve:
I. It is located in the Alwar district of Rajasthan.
II. It gained global attention for the successful aerial relocation of tigers from Ranthambore in 2008.
III. The reserve encompasses historical sites such as the Kankwadi Fort.
IV. It is officially recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage natural site.
Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, III, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

31. Which critically endangered migratory bird was historically the star attraction of Keoladeo National Park for international birdwatchers, but has not been sighted there since the early 2000s?
(A) Greater Flamingo
(B) Demoiselle Crane
(C) Great Indian Bustard
(D) Siberian Crane

32. The Pandupol Hanuman Temple, situated deep inside a prominent wildlife reserve, receives heavy footfall of religious tourists on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Which reserve houses this temple?
(A) Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve
(B) Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary
(C) Sariska Tiger Reserve
(D) Ranthambore National Park

33. The world-famous Pushkar Fair, which serves as an amalgamation of a livestock trade fair and religious tourism, reaches its peak during the full moon (Poornima) of which Hindu lunar month?
(A) Chaitra
(B) Kartik
(C) Shravan
(D) Phalgun

34. Pushkar stands out on the global religious tourism map because it is home to one of the very few prominent temples in the world dedicated to:
(A) Lord Indra
(B) Lord Varuna
(C) Lord Surya
(D) Lord Brahma

35. Pilgrims and tourists visiting Pushkar frequently perform ritual baths in the sacred Pushkar Lake. According to tradition, how many bathing ghats surround this lake?
(A) 11
(B) 24
(C) 52
(D) 108

36. To boost tourism and ease pilgrim access in Pushkar, a modern ropeway (cable car) system has been installed that leads to the temple of Lord Brahma's first wife. Which temple is this?
(A) Gayatri Mata Temple
(B) Mansa Devi Temple
(C) Savitri Mata Temple
(D) Chamunda Mata Temple

37. The Dargah of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti in Ajmer is a secular tourism marvel drawing millions. The revered saint belonged to which prominent order of Sufism?
(A) Chishtiyya
(B) Qadiriyya
(C) Suhrawardiyya
(D) Naqshbandiyya

38. Match the prominent religious tourism destinations in List I with their corresponding locations in List II:
List I: (Religious Destination)
P. Shrinathji Temple
Q. Dargah Sharif
R. Govind Dev Ji Temple
S. Brahma Temple
List II: (Location)
1. Jaipur
2. Pushkar
3. Nathdwara
4. Ajmer
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

39. Nathdwara is a highly significant hub for religious tourism in the Mewar circuit. It is famous not only for the Shrinathji Temple but also for its

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The state's Repowering Policy provides clear guidelines and incentives for wind farm developers to maximize generation efficiency from existing high-wind potential sites without requiring new land acquisition.

58. (A) Devgarh, Pratapgarh
Following the pioneer wind energy project at Amarsagar in 1999, Rajasthan's second commercial wind power plant was commissioned in March 2001 at Devgarh in Pratapgarh district. Built along elevated ridge topography, Devgarh demonstrated that viable wind corridors extended beyond western desert regions into southern plateau zones of the state grid.

59. (B) Indigenous 700 MW Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR)
The proposed Mahi Banswara Atomic Power Project in Banswara district is planned to feature four indigenously developed 700 MW Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors. Utilizing natural uranium as fuel and heavy water as both coolant and moderator, this project expands nuclear base-load generation capability in southern Rajasthan under national fleet-mode construction plans.

60. (B) Madhya Pradesh
The Chambal Valley Development Scheme is a multi-purpose river valley venture shared on a 50:50 basis between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Hydroelectric energy generated across joint powerhouse stations—including Gandhi Sagar, Rana Pratap Sagar, and Jawahar Sagar dams—is split equally to supply power and irrigation benefits to both participating neighboring states.

61. (B) I and III only
The Rajasthan Solar Energy Policy 2019 set an overall capacity target of 30 GW by FY 2024-25 and provided fiscal concessions, including a 100 percent electricity duty exemption for specified periods. It actively encouraged private solar developers to build independent solar parks, making statement II false, while statements I and III remain accurate.

62. (C) Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS)
The Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme is a reform-oriented central program implemented across state DISCOMs in Rajasthan. RDSS provides financial assistance tied to operational efficiency improvements, supporting smart prepaid metering deployment, loss-reduction infrastructure works, sub-station modernization, and feeder separation to enhance financial viability and reduce commercial losses across distribution grid networks.

63. (D) Central nodal agency implementing solar schemes, conducting auctions, and trading power.
Solar Energy Corporation of India functions under the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy as the central administrative nodal agency for implementing national solar initiatives. In Rajasthan, SECI conducts competitive tariff auctions, signs power purchase agreements with developers, facilitates megawatt-scale solar park development, and manages inter-state trading of renewable power.

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64. (B) HPCL 74%, Government of Rajasthan 26%
HPCL Rajasthan Refinery Limited is a joint venture company incorporated to construct a petroleum refinery and petrochemical complex at Pachpadra in Barmer district. The corporate equity structure consists of a 74 percent stake held by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and a 26 percent stake held by the Government of Rajasthan.

65. (B) Coal Bed Methane
Coal Bed Methane refers to natural gas, primarily methane, trapped within subterranean coal and lignite seams. In Rajasthan, exploration for CBM targets deep Tertiary lignite beds in Barmer and Bikaner basins, offering an unconventional natural gas resource that can complement conventional natural gas fields for future regional industrial energy requirements.

66. (B) I, III and IV only
Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited serves as the state nodal agency for renewable policies, facilitating approvals and implementing MNRE schemes. However, operating and maintaining thermal or nuclear power plants falls under utilities like RVUNL or NPCIL rather than RREC, making statement II false while statements I, III, and IV correctly outline RREC's mandate.

waste into utility-scale clean power while preventing open field burning practices across rural farming communities.

48. (A) 2, 3, 1, 4
The correct descending order of total installed solar power capacity places Rajasthan in the lead position due to its aggressive utility-scale solar developments. Gujarat ranks second with substantial solar park additions, Karnataka holds third place following early solar leadership at Pavagada, and Tamil Nadu ranks fourth among these key solar producing states.

49. (B) Energy Storage Systems
Energy Storage Systems represent technology solutions—such as battery energy storage systems, pumped hydro storage, and flywheel technology—designed to store surplus electricity generated during high renewable generation periods. ESS releases stored power during peak demand periods, smoothing intermittent solar and wind generation, maintaining grid balance, and enhancing transmission stability across grid networks.

50. (C) 2000 kilotonnes per annum (KTPA)
The Rajasthan Green Hydrogen Policy 2023 establishes an ambitious target of producing 2000 kilotonnes per annum of green hydrogen by 2030. Utilizing abundant renewable solar and wind power for water electrolysis, the policy offers land concessions, grid charge exemptions, and infrastructure support to position the state as a clean fuel manufacturing hub.

51. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
Power sharing ratios reflect joint inter-state river agreements: Chambal Valley Project power is shared equally (50%) with Madhya Pradesh; Mahi Bajaj Sagar Project power is 100% allocated to Rajasthan; Bhakra Nangal yields a 15.22% power share; and the Vyas Pong Dam project provides Rajasthan with a 58.5% share of generated electricity.

52. (C) Tertiary period
Lignite deposits in Rajasthan formed during the Tertiary geological period, specifically within the Eocene epoch around 40 to 60 million years ago. Geologically younger than Carboniferous hard coals, Tertiary lignite features high moisture content, volatile matter, moderate sulfur levels, and lower energy density, requiring specialized combustion technologies for power generation.

53. (A) Barsingsar
NLC India Limited operates an integrated mine-mouth power facility at Barsingsar in Bikaner district. This complex combines an opencast lignite mine supplying raw feedstock directly to an adjacent 250 megawatt thermal power plant. The power station uses Circulating Fluidized Bed Combustion boilers to generate pithead electricity efficiently from local Tertiary lignite reserves.

54. (D) Jhalawar
The Kalisindh Super Thermal Power Station is located near Jhalrapatan in Jhalawar district. Operated by Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited, this coal-fired facility utilizes natural draft cooling towers and draws raw water from the nearby Kalisindh river, feeding supercritical power units to supply high-voltage electricity to the state grid.

55. (B) Solar radiation per unit area on a surface perpendicular to direct sun rays
Direct Normal Irradiance represents the amount of solar radiation received per unit area by a surface held strictly perpendicular to incoming direct solar rays from the sun's location in the sky. DNI is a crucial parameter for evaluating solar resource potential, particularly for solar thermal, concentrated solar power, and tracking photovoltaic installations.

56. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
Competitive tariffs achieved at Bhadla Solar Park resulted from exceptional geographical advantages combined with comprehensive park infrastructure. The region receives world-leading direct solar irradiance, while state agencies provided turnkey park infrastructure, including land allocation, roads, and power evacuation substations, eliminating private development bottlenecks and lowering financial risks for competitive solar power bidding.

57. (D) Repowering Policy
Repowering refers to replacing older, inefficient, low-capacity wind turbines with modern, higher-capacity, multi-megawatt wind turbines featuring taller hub heights and larger rotor diameters.

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for over 45 percent of Rajasthan's total installed power generating capacity. This structural shift positions the state as a major leader in India's broader renewable energy transition away from pure coal-based generation.

77. (A) Palana Lignite
Palana Lignite refers to the specific Tertiary lignite variety found in the Palana deposit of Bikaner district, where commercial underground mining commenced during the late 19th century. Renowned for its distinctive resinous content, dark brownish color, and moderate volatile matter, Palana lignite historically formed the foundational core of local power generation.

78. (C) IGNP Canal Network
The Suratgarh Super Thermal Power Station, situated in Sri Ganganagar district, sources its essential operational raw water from the Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojana canal network. Continuous canal water supply feeds cooling towers, boiler feed systems, and auxiliary plant operations, supporting uninterrupted base-load thermal generation in an arid northern state location.

79. (B) 925 MW
The Nokh Solar Park, situated in the Jaisalmer district, was planned and developed by the Rajasthan Solar Park Development Company Limited, a subsidiary of RREC. Designed for a total operational capacity of 925 megawatts, the park features structured plots, shared utility infrastructure, internal access roads, and grid evacuation sub-station facilities.

80. (C) Canada
Commercial operation of Unit 1 at Rajasthan Atomic Power Station began in 1973 built in technical collaboration with Atomic Energy of Canada Limited. Utilizing the CANDU (Canada Deuterium Uranium) reactor design, this project introduced Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor technology into India's commercial nuclear power program, using natural uranium fuel and heavy water.

81. (D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.
Thermal power generation burns fossil fuels like coal and lignite, releasing carbon dioxide and greenhouse gases during power production, making it carbon-emitting rather than carbon-neutral. However, modern supercritical thermal plants utilize higher operational steam temperatures and pressures to burn lignite more efficiently than older subcritical plants, reducing emission intensity per generated megawatt-hour.

82. (C) ~142 GW
According to official wind resource assessments conducted by the National Institute of Wind Energy, Rajasthan possesses an estimated wind power potential of approximately 142 gigawatts at a turbine hub height of 120 meters. Vast flat desert stretches in western districts offer strong ambient wind conditions for deploying utility-scale wind farms.

83. (A) Bithdi
The third commercial wind power project in Rajasthan was commissioned in March 2003 at Bithdi in Jodhpur district. Following early successes at Amarsagar and Devgarh, the Bithdi installation confirmed the commercial viability of wind turbine operations across Jodhpur's arid terrain, encouraging further expansion of wind farms across western desert Rajasthan.

84. (A) I and II only
Rawatbhata is India's second commercial nuclear power station after Tarapur in Maharashtra, and Rajasthan possesses commercial uranium deposits being mined at Rohil in Sikar district to bolster domestic fuel supply. However, Rawatbhata reactors are located inland along the Rana Pratap Sagar reservoir and cooled using freshwater rather than sea water.

85. (C) 58.50%
Under the inter-state agreements governing the Beas Project (Pong Dam powerhouse), Rajasthan holds a designated power share of 58.50 percent of the generated hydroelectric power. The remaining power share is allocated to Punjab and Haryana, with generated electricity wheeling through Northern Regional Grid lines to supply state regional load centers.

86. (C) 3500 MW
The Rajasthan Wind and Hybrid Energy Policy 2019 targeted the installation of 3500 MW of Wind-Solar Hybrid projects by FY 2024-25. By promoting co-located or virtual hybrid energy installations, the policy framework aimed to optimize evacuation transmission capacity, smooth renewable generation curves, reduce

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67. (A) Billing consumers for net grid electricity consumed after deducting solar power exported back.
Net metering is a billing mechanism that measures the difference between electricity imported from the distribution grid and excess solar electricity exported to the grid by a rooftop solar system. The bidirectional meter tracks both power flows, allowing consumers to receive financial credits on monthly power bills for surplus energy contributed.

68. (C) To offer tailored financial concessions for mega renewable energy investments
Under the state's investment frameworks, customized incentive packages cleared by the Board of Investment provide tailored fiscal, administrative, and infrastructural concessions to large-scale mega renewable energy projects. These special packages aim to attract private capital by providing tailored land allotment terms, duty waivers, and fast-track clearance mechanisms for high-value investments.

69. (A) KfW Development Bank (Germany)
The Green Energy Corridor project in Rajasthan receives major soft loan financing and technical assistance from the German KfW Development Bank of Germany. This multilateral funding supports state transmission companies like RVPNL in constructing high-capacity sub-stations, underground cabling, and extra-high voltage grid interconnections needed to evacuate large-scale renewable power generation.

70. (A) Nuclear Power, Thermal Power, Solar Power, Wind Power
Plant Load Factor measures historical reliability and continuous power capability. Nuclear power plants maintain the highest continuous PLF operating non-stop for base-load supply, followed by coal and lignite thermal plants. Solar power operates at moderate capacity factors during daylight hours, while wind energy exhibits lower seasonal PLF due to variable wind velocity patterns.

71. (B) Converting cattle dung and organic waste into biogas and manure
The GOBARdhan initiative focuses on managing organic waste in rural areas by establishing community and cluster-level biogas plants. By processing cattle dung, agricultural residue, and organic waste, the scheme generates purified bio-CNG and biogas for domestic or commercial energy use while producing organic bio-slurry fertilizer to support sustainable agricultural practices.

72. (C) Rajasthan ranks first nationally in total installed solar power capacity.
Rajasthan leads India in national solar power production, ranking first among all states in cumulative utility-scale and decentralized solar capacity. Driven by abundant desert land, high solar irradiance, state policies, and mega solar parks like Bhadla, the state contributes a significant proportion of the total national clean grid power output.

73. (D) Delays in land acquisition and transmission right-of-way
Private developers establishing large solar installations in western Rajasthan frequently face challenges regarding private land acquisition, land conversion procedures, and securing transmission right-of-way permissions. Constructing long transmission corridors through diverse land parcels often involves regulatory delays, local compensation disputes, and civil clearances that slow down solar energy project connection timelines.

74. (A) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
Major solar parks correspond to specific geographic districts across Rajasthan: Nokh Solar Park is developed in Jaisalmer; Phalodi-Pokhran Solar Park spans across bordering areas of Jodhpur and Jaisalmer districts; Pugal Solar Park is established in Bikaner district; and the world-renowned Bhadla Solar Park complex is situated in Jodhpur desert district.

75. (B) Jawai Dam and Shahpur
Pumped Hydro Storage Projects rely on elevation differences between upper and lower water reservoirs to store energy during off-peak or high solar generation hours and discharge hydroelectric power during peak load demand. Sites around Jawai Dam and Shahpur possess necessary topographic gradients and water availability required for constructing viable pumped storage systems.

76. (C) More than 45%
Driven by rapid expansion in utility-scale solar parks, wind developments, and biomass projects, clean non-fossil sources now account

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CHAPTER 22
Tourist Places of Rajasthan

1. In the context of Rajasthan's administrative classification of tourism, which of the following districts form the core of the state's famous 'Desert Circuit' (Maru Trikon)?
(A) Jodhpur, Udaipur, and Rajsamand
(B) Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Jodhpur, and Barmer
(C) Jaipur, Ajmer, Pushkar, and Tonk
(D) Pali, Sirohi, Jalore, and Barmer

2. Consider the following major tourist cities of Rajasthan:
I. Jaisalmer
II. Jaipur
III. Bikaner
IV. Bharatpur
Which of the following represents the correct geographical arrangement of these cities from West to East?
(A) I, III, II, IV
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) III, I, II, IV
(D) III, II, I, IV

3. What is the traditional welcoming slogan officially adopted by the Rajasthan Tourism Department to promote tourism globally?
(A) Padharo Mhare Desh
(B) Incredible Rajasthan
(C) Atithi Devo Bhava
(D) The Royal Experience

4. The Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation (RTDC) promotes several regional circuits. Which of the following is NOT officially recognized as a primary tourist circuit in Rajasthan?
(A) Mewar Circuit
(B) Shekhawati Circuit
(C) Malwa Circuit
(D) Vagad Circuit

5. The iconic Hawa Mahal in Jaipur, a major heritage tourism site, was constructed in 1799 primarily to allow royal ladies to observe everyday street life and festivals. Which ruler commissioned this five-storeyed structure?
(A) Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh
(B) Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II
(C) Maharaja Sawai Madho Singh I
(D) Maharaja Ram Singh II

6. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Jantar Mantar in Jaipur is a major heritage tourism site and is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage property.
Reason (R): It was constructed by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II exclusively to promote European astronomical instruments in the Indian subcontinent.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

7. Jaigarh Fort in Jaipur attracts a large number of heritage tourists primarily because it houses:
(A) The world's largest stone sundial built by royal astronomers
(B) The Jaivana Cannon, the world's largest wheeled cannon
(C) The Sheesh Mahal, featuring intricate glass and mirror mosaics
(D) The Anokhi Museum, dedicated to traditional hand block printing

8. Elephant rides for tourists ascending to the main courtyard are a signature heritage experience at which of the following historic forts in Jaipur?
(A) Nahargarh Fort
(B) Moti Dungri Fort
(C) Amer Fort
(D) Taragarh Fort

9. The magnificent City Palace of Udaipur, an essential stop on the Mewar heritage tourism

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land procurement bottlenecks, and stabilize grid frequency performance.

87. (B) Directorate of Petroleum (DoP), Rajasthan
The Directorate of Petroleum, functioning under the Department of Mines and Petroleum of Rajasthan, acts as the primary nodal administrative body for hydrocarbon operations. It oversees oil and natural gas exploration block allocations, monitors lease compliance, coordinates petroleum production activities, and advises the state government on hydrocarbon licensing policies and royalties.

88. (D) I, II, III and IV
Hydrocarbon potential in Rajasthan is distributed across four major petroliferous sedimentary basins spanning vast geographic areas: the Barmer-Sanchor Basin, Jaisalmer Basin, Bikaner-Nagaur Basin, and Vindhyan Basin. These geological basins contain proven crude oil, natural gas, heavy oil, and shale formations, making all four listed sedimentary regions correct major petroliferous basins.

89. (D) Earning extra income by selling surplus solar power to DISCOMs
Under Component C of PM KUSUM, individual grid-connected agricultural pumps are solarized by installing solar PV panels. Farmers use solar power during daytime hours for crop irrigation and export any unconsumed surplus electricity back to local DISCOM power grids under predetermined feed-in tariffs, generating additional reliable supplemental agricultural farm income.

90. (B) 1, 4, 2, 3
Arranging Bhadla Solar Park development phases by installed capacity from lowest to highest capacity yields: Phase I (developed by RSDCL) at 65 MW capacity; Phase IV (developed by AREPRL) at 500 MW capacity; Phase II (developed by RSDCL) at 680 MW capacity; and Phase III (developed by SUCRL) at 1000 MW capacity.

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elevated hill or rocky outcrop

19. Which unique temple situated near Bikaner is internationally renowned in religious tourism for its thousands of protected black rats (Kabbas)?
(A) Karni Mata Temple
(B) Brahma Temple
(C) Salasar Balaji Temple
(D) Govind Dev Ji Temple

20. Bikaner has immense potential for specialized eco-tourism due to the presence of which unique central research institute that allows visitors to learn about desert livestock?
(A) Central Arid Zone Research Institute
(B) Desert Medicine Research Centre
(C) National Research Centre on Camel
(D) National Institute of Solar Energy

21. The Dilwara Temples in Mount Abu are highly celebrated in heritage and religious tourism for their extraordinary marble carvings. To which religion are these temples dedicated?
(A) Jainism
(B) Buddhism
(C) Hinduism
(D) Sikhism

22. Nakki Lake is a pivotal attraction for hill station tourism in Mount Abu. According to prevalent local mythology marketed to tourists, how was this lake formed?
(A) It was carved out by the Pandava brothers during their period of exile
(B) It was naturally formed by a massive meteor strike several centuries ago
(C) It was artificially excavated under the royal order of Maharaja Jai Singh II
(D) It was dug out by the gods using their fingernails

23. Tourists visiting Mount Abu often trek to Guru Shikhar, which holds geographical significance as:
(A) The origin point of the Luni River
(B) The highest peak of the Aravalli Range
(C) The only active volcanic peak in North India
(D) The geographic center of Rajasthan

24. To promote hill station tourism, the Rajasthan Tourism Department organizes an annual 'Winter Festival' in Mount Abu. Which traditional dance form is typically highlighted during this festival?
(A) Ghoomar
(B) Kalbelia
(C) Gair
(D) All of the above

25. Ranthambore National Park, one of Northern India's largest and most famous wildlife tourism destinations, is located in which district of Rajasthan?
(A) Northern district of Alwar
(B) Eastern district of Bharatpur
(C) Historic district of Bundi
(D) Sawai Madhopur district

26. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Ranthambore is internationally acclaimed among wildlife photographers for diurnal tiger sightings.
Reason (R): The tigers in Ranthambore are known to be relatively accustomed to human presence in safari vehicles and often roam openly during the daytime among historical ruins.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

27. Which major lake is situated inside the core wildlife zone of Ranthambore National Park, adjacent to the historic Jogi Mahal, making it a prime spot for tourist safaris?
(A) Ana Sagar
(B) Padam Talao
(C) Siliserh Lake
(D) Kaylana Lake

28. Inside the Ranthambore Fort complex, there is a famous temple that attracts immense religious tourism alongside wildlife tourism. Which deity is worshipped here?
(A) Shrinathji
(B) Trinetra Ganesha
(C) Karni Mata
(D) Mehandipur Balaji

29. Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur is globally recognized as a premier destination for wildlife and eco-tourism primarily because it is:
(A) A major wintering ground for Palaearctic migratory waterfowl

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circuit, was built over nearly 400 years on the eastern banks of which lake?
(A) Fateh Sagar Lake
(B) Jaisamand Lake
(C) Udai Sagar Lake
(D) Lake Pichola

10. Consider the following statements regarding Mehrangarh Fort in Jodhpur:
I. It was founded by Rao Jodha in 1459.
II. It houses historic palatial structures like the Phool Mahal and the Moti Mahal.
III. It is classified as a 'Jal Durg' (Water Fort) because it is surrounded by the Kaylana Lake.
Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

11. Which white marble cenotaph in Jodhpur, built in memory of Maharaja Jaswant Singh II, is frequently marketed to tourists as the 'Taj Mahal of Marwar'?
(A) Mandore Chhatris
(B) Jaswant Thada
(C) Bada Bagh
(D) Moosi Maharani ki Chhatri

12. Umaid Bhawan Palace in Jodhpur, a major attraction for luxury and palace tourism, is architecturally significant because it is heavily built using which local material?
(A) Red sandstone from Dholpur
(B) Chittar sandstone
(C) White marble from Makrana
(D) Yellow sandstone

13. The annual Desert Festival, heavily promoted by Rajasthan Tourism to showcase folk culture, camel races, and local music, is traditionally held at which location?
(A) Sam Sand Dunes, Jaisalmer
(B) Khimsar Heritage Village, Nagaur
(C) Deshnoke Temple Complex, Bikaner
(D) Osian Ancient Oasis, Jodhpur

14. In Jaisalmer, Patwon Ki Haveli is a cluster of five grand havelis that draws tourists for its exquisite architecture. It was originally built by a wealthy merchant dealing in:
(A) Spices, textiles, and aromatic tea leaves
(B) Precious gemstones, timber, and marble
(C) Gold, silver, and brocade threads
(D) Raw salt, opium, and indigo dyes

15. The 'Sonar Quila' or Golden Fort of Jaisalmer acquires its distinct golden-yellow hue, especially during sunset, due to the use of:
(A) Gold-leaf painting on its exterior walls
(B) Brass plating on its bastions
(C) Yellow ochre pigment applied annually by locals
(D) Yellow sandstone in its construction

16. Desert tourism in Jaisalmer heavily relies on the unique ecosystem of the region. Which protected area near Jaisalmer provides tourists a glimpse of the Great Indian Bustard, chinkara, and desert fox?
(A) Tal Chhapar Sanctuary
(B) Gajner Wildlife Sanctuary
(C) Desert National Park
(D) Machia Biological Park

17. Consider the following famous tourism festivals of Rajasthan:
I. Desert Festival (Jaisalmer)
II. Camel Festival (Bikaner)
III. Marwar Festival (Jodhpur)
IV. Elephant Festival (Jaipur)
Which of the following represents the correct chronological sequence of these festivals based on their typical occurrence in the calendar year from January onwards?
(A) Desert Festival (Jaisalmer) → Camel Festival (Bikaner) → Marwar Festival (Jodhpur) → Elephant Festival (Jaipur)
(B) Camel Festival (Bikaner) → Desert Festival (Jaisalmer) → Elephant Festival (Jaipur) → Marwar Festival (Jodhpur)
(C) Elephant Festival (Jaipur) → Camel Festival (Bikaner) → Desert Festival (Jaisalmer) → Marwar Festival (Jodhpur)
(D) Marwar Festival (Jodhpur) → Elephant Festival (Jaipur) → Desert Festival (Jaisalmer) → Camel Festival (Bikaner)

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18. Junagarh Fort in Bikaner stands out among the major heritage forts of Rajasthan primarily because:
(A) It was the only fort in Rajasthan never captured by the Mughals
(B) It is built entirely of white marble
(C) It currently serves as the official seat of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly
(D) It is built on the plains rather than on an

'Pichhwai' paintings, which traditionally depict the life events of:
(A) Lord Shiva and Parvati
(B) Lord Krishna
(C) Lord Ram and Sita
(D) Lord Mahavira

40. The massive annual influx of tourists and devotees in Ajmer occurs during the 'Urs' of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti. What does the term 'Urs' commemorate in Sufi tradition?
(A) The solemn birth anniversary commemorated by devotees of the saint
(B) The historic arrival of the saint in the Indian subcontinent
(C) The death anniversary representing union with God
(D) The grand completion of the main Dargah shrine construction

41. To capitalize on the state's natural heritage and promote sustainable tourism practices, the Government of Rajasthan officially launched the 'Rajasthan Ecotourism Policy' in which year?
(A) 2010
(B) 2015
(C) 2021
(D) 2023

42. Consider the following statements regarding the Rajasthan Rural Tourism Scheme:
I. It was launched to generate employment by establishing homestays and rural guest houses.
II. It offers financial incentives, including a 100% exemption on stamp duty for eligible rural tourism units.
III. The scheme exclusively targets international tourists and prohibits domestic bookings.
Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

43. As part of its eco-tourism strategy, the Rajasthan government initiated the development of 'Luv Kush Vatikas'. What is the primary objective of these Vatikas?
(A) To establish dedicated conservation and breeding centers for the Great Indian Bustard
(B) To create district eco-tourism parks showcasing local flora and fauna
(C) To build ultra-luxury eco-resorts exclusively for foreign tourists near Ranthambore
(D) To develop large-scale artificial lakes in the western desert districts for water sports

44. Menar village, situated in the Udaipur district, is rapidly gaining prominence on the eco-tourism map of Rajasthan primarily because it is recognized as a:
(A) Dedicated Camel Breeding Village supported by state livestock schemes
(B) 'Bird Village' due to abundant migratory birds at its lakes
(C) Heritage Weaving Village producing traditional hand-printed textiles
(D) Fossil Village showcasing preserved flora from the Jurassic geological era

45. The Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation (RTDC) acts as the nodal agency for tourism promotion in the state. In which year was RTDC formally established?
(A) 1956
(B) 1978
(C) 1989
(D) 2001

46. One of the major operational mandates of the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation (RTDC) in partnership with the Indian Railways is the management of:
(A) The intra-city Jaipur Metro Rail Network and transit hubs
(B) Inter-state luxury bus terminals and highway expressways
(C) Luxury tourist trains like Palace on Wheels
(D) High-speed Vande Bharat Express routes operating across Rajasthan

47. RTDC operates several tourist bungalows across Rajasthan, usually named after local culture or flora/fauna. The well-known 'Dhola Maru' RTDC hotel is located in which city?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Jaisalmer
(C) Udaipur
(D) Bikaner

48. Which of the following is NOT a functional mandate or activity typically undertaken by the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation (RTDC)?
(A) Operating state-owned budget accommodations, hotels, and cafeterias at

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major tourist hotspots
(B) Organizing regional package tours, guided excursions, and specialized local sightseeing services
(C) Issuing commercial aviation licenses for private flights
(D) Managing comprehensive marketing, promotion, and hospitality operations of state-run luxury trains

49. The 'Paying Guest Scheme' promoted by the Rajasthan Tourism Department was introduced primarily to achieve which of the following objectives?
(A) To strictly regulate and standardize room tariffs across all five-star luxury heritage hotels
(B) To offer affordable stays with local cultural exposure and home-cooked cuisine
(C) To acquire heritage private residential properties across urban centers for state government administrative use
(D) To legally convert all registered urban residential housing societies into fully commercialized hotel zones

50. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The development of 'Heritage Hotels' has played a pivotal role in decentralizing tourism to the rural and semi-urban areas of Rajasthan.
Reason (R): It encourages the restoration of decaying ancestral forts, palaces, and havelis spread across the state into productive hospitality assets that generate local employment.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

51. Which property in Rajasthan is widely documented and celebrated as India's very first 'Heritage Hotel'?
(A) Ajit Bhawan, Jodhpur
(B) Rambagh Palace, Jaipur
(C) Lake Palace, Udaipur
(D) Samode Palace, Jaipur

52. According to the guidelines set by the Ministry of Tourism, to be officially classified under the 'Heritage Hotel' category, the fort, haveli, or residence must have been built prior to which year?
(A) 1857
(B) 1900
(C) 1950
(D) 1971

53. The 'Palace on Wheels', a pioneer in luxury train tourism in Rajasthan, traditionally commences its standard 7-night/8-day itinerary from which railway station?
(A) Safdarjung Railway Station, New Delhi
(B) Jaipur Junction, Jaipur
(C) Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai
(D) Jodhpur Junction, Jodhpur

54. Match the luxury tourist trains in List I with their defining characteristics in List II:
List I: (Luxury Tourist Train)
P. Palace on Wheels
Q. Royal Rajasthan on Wheels
R. Maharajas' Express
S. Fairy Queen
List II: (Defining Characteristic)
1. Launched in 2009 with upgraded amenities as a successor/companion to the pioneer train.
2. Pioneer luxury train of Rajasthan launched in 1982.
3. Heritage train pulled by the world's oldest working steam locomotive.
4. Ultra-luxury pan-India train offering the 'Heritage of India' route covering Rajasthan.
(A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4
(C) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

55. The standard itinerary of the Palace on Wheels covers major heritage and wildlife destinations. Which of the following locations is generally NOT a part of its regular scheduled stops?
(A) Jaipur
(B) Mount Abu
(C) Jaisalmer
(D) Sawai Madhopur

56. The Palace on Wheels, which fundamentally revolutionized heritage tourism in Rajasthan by using the erstwhile royal saloons, was first

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launched for commercial operations in which year?
(A) 1978
(B) 1982
(C) 1995
(D) 2005

57. In 2013, the World Heritage Committee inscribed a serial cultural property named the 'Hill Forts of Rajasthan' onto the UNESCO World Heritage List. How many forts are included in this specific designation?
(A) 4
(B) 5
(C) 6
(D) 8

58. Consider the following statements regarding UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Rajasthan:
I. The Walled City of Jaipur was inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 2019.
II. Jantar Mantar, Jaipur, is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
III. Taragarh Fort in Ajmer is one of the six forts included in the 'Hill Forts of Rajasthan' cluster.
IV. Keoladeo National Park was inscribed as a natural World Heritage Site.
Which of the statements given above are INCORRECT?
(A) I and II only
(B) III only
(C) III and IV only
(D) II, III, and IV only

59. Kumbhalgarh Fort, a major hub for heritage tourism and a UNESCO World Heritage site, is globally renowned for which specific architectural feature?
(A) Its foundation resting entirely on wooden logs
(B) Its extensive 36-km long continuous perimeter wall
(C) Its 953 meticulously carved marble windows
(D) Its use of pure white Makrana marble for the entire fortification

60. Consider the following UNESCO World Heritage sites in Rajasthan:
I. Keoladeo National Park
II. Jantar Mantar (Jaipur)
III. Hill Forts of Rajasthan
IV. Walled City of Jaipur
Which of the following represents the correct chronological order of their inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage list, from earliest to most recent?
(A) Keoladeo National Park → Jantar Mantar (Jaipur) → Hill Forts of Rajasthan → Walled City of Jaipur
(B) Jantar Mantar (Jaipur) → Keoladeo National Park → Walled City of Jaipur → Hill Forts of Rajasthan
(C) Hill Forts of Rajasthan → Keoladeo National Park → Jantar Mantar (Jaipur) → Walled City of Jaipur
(D) Keoladeo National Park → Hill Forts of Rajasthan → Jantar Mantar (Jaipur) → Walled City of Jaipur

61. Among the six forts designated under the UNESCO 'Hill Forts of Rajasthan' cluster, which fort beautifully exemplifies the 'Jal Durg' (Water Fort) architectural category as it is surrounded by rivers?
(A) Gagron Fort
(B) Ranthambore Fort
(C) Kumbhalgarh Fort
(D) Amer Fort

62. Acknowledging its massive potential for employment and economic growth, in which year did the Government of Rajasthan first declare tourism as an 'Industry'?
(A) 1978
(B) 1989
(C) 1995
(D) 2001

63. The Government of Rajasthan declared 'Thrust Sector' status for the tourism and hospitality industry. What is the primary economic benefit of this status for tourism businesses?
(A) They are completely exempt from paying GST for 10 years.
(B) They are allowed to acquire agricultural land without converting its land-use category.
(C) They receive free manpower supplied directly by the state government.
(D) They become eligible for industrial tariffs on electricity and various government subsidies.

64. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Mukhyamantri Paryatan Udyog Sambal Yojana' introduced in Rajasthan:
I. It was launched primarily to provide financial relief to the tourism sector hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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ANSWERS

1. (B) Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Jodhpur, and Barmer
The Desert Circuit, historically known as the Maru Trikon, is a vital administrative tourist circuit in Rajasthan. Originally spanning the three major desert cities of Jaisalmer, Bikaner, and Jodhpur, it was expanded to include Barmer district. This circuit highlights the unique Thar desert landscape, historic sandstone forts, cultural festivals, and traditional desert hospitality.

2. (A) I, III, II, IV
Geographically, Jaisalmer lies in the extreme western part of Rajasthan, followed by Bikaner located slightly further east in the northern desert region. Moving eastward towards the central plain brings Jaipur, the capital city. Bharatpur is situated in the easternmost portion of the state near the Uttar Pradesh border, establishing the correct west-to-east spatial alignment.

3. (A) Padharo Mhare Desh
The Rajasthan Tourism Department officially adopted the traditional Rajasthani welcoming slogan Padharo Mhare Desh, which translates to Welcome to My Land. This iconic motto reflects the rich cultural ethos and warm hospitality of the state. It was reinstated as the primary tourism brand tag line in 2019, replacing earlier promotional slogans to strengthen authentic heritage identity.

4. (C) Malwa Circuit
Rajasthan Tourism Department categorizes the state into several primary tourist circuits based on regional, cultural, and geographical linkages. Recognized regional circuits include Mewar, Shekhawati, Marwar, Dhundhar, Vagad, Hadoti, and the Desert Circuit. The Malwa geographical region primarily lies within the neighboring state of Madhya Pradesh, making it unclassified as an official primary circuit in Rajasthan.

5. (A) Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh
The Hawa Mahal, or Palace of Breeze, was commissioned in 1799 by Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh, a devoted patron of art and architecture. Designed by Lal Chand Ustad, the unique five-storeyed structure features 953 intricate jharokhas. It allowed royal women to discreetly observe street processions and daily public life while adhering to purdah customs.

6. (C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
The Jantar Mantar observatory in Jaipur is an outstanding UNESCO World Heritage site featuring nineteen architectural astronomical instruments. Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II constructed it to compile astronomical tables and predict celestial movements based on classical Indian astronomical traditions. He did not build the complex to promote European instruments, making the assertion accurate while the reasoning remains historically incorrect.

7. (B) The Jaivana Cannon, the world's largest wheeled cannon
Jaigarh Fort, located atop the Cheel ka Teela hill in Jaipur, was designed as a formidable military fort to safeguard Amer Fort. It houses the famous Jaivana Cannon, manufactured within the fort foundry in 1720. Recognized as the largest cannon on wheels in the world, it remains a major attraction for heritage tourists.

8. (C) Amer Fort
Amer Fort in Jaipur is famous worldwide for offering traditional decorated elephant rides that transport tourists up the cobbled path to the Suraj Pole courtyard. This activity offers a historic experience reflecting royal entry customs. The magnificent fort combines Hindu and Mughal architectural elements and forms an integral part of the UNESCO World Heritage cluster.

9. (D) Lake Pichola
The historic City Palace complex in Udaipur stands prominently on the eastern banks of Lake Pichola. Initiated by Maharana Udai Singh II in 1559, the palace underwent expansions by successive rulers of the Mewar dynasty over four centuries. Its grand architecture, granite walls, and picturesque lakeside positioning make it a major heritage destination in Rajasthan.

10. (A) I and II only
Mehrangarh Fort in Jodhpur was founded in 1459 by Rao Jodha atop the steep hill known

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72. Business tourism is a highly lucrative segment for Rajasthan. What does the acronym 'MICE' stand for in the context of this tourism segment?
(A) Management, Investment, Corporates, and Enterprises
(B) Marketing, Information, Conferences, and Events
(C) Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions
(D) Meetings, International Conventions, and Expos

73. To cement its position as a major hub for MICE tourism, Rajasthan houses a state-of-the-art facility known as JECC (Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Centre). In which specific industrial/institutional area of Jaipur is it located?
(A) Mansarovar
(B) Vaishali Nagar
(C) Malviya Nagar
(D) Sitapura

74. Which specific demographic does MICE tourism primarily aim to attract to Rajasthan?
(A) Corporate groups, industry professionals, and delegates
(B) Low-budget international backpackers, budget tourists, and independent solo travellers
(C) Devout religious pilgrims, spiritual seekers, ascetics, and monastic order members
(D) Primary, secondary, and higher education students undergoing institutional field visits

75. Match the traditional handicraft products in List I with their famous centers in List II:
List I: (Traditional Handicraft Product)
P. Thewa Art (Gold on glass)
Q. Usta Art (Camel hide painting)
R. Terracotta Plaques/Toys
S. Azrakh Print (Textile)
List II: (Famous Center)
1. Barmer
2. Molela (Rajsamand)
3. Bikaner
4. Pratapgarh
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1

76. Identify the INCORRECTLY matched pair of a prominent tourist destination and its primary tourism classification in Rajasthan.
(A) Jaisalmer – Desert Tourism
(B) Mount Abu – Desert Tourism
(C) Kumbhalgarh – Heritage/Fort Tourism
(D) Ranthambore – Wildlife Tourism

77. If a tourist agency specifically wants to curate a package that equally blends 'Grand Heritage Palace Tourism' with 'Lake Tourism', which city in Rajasthan would be the most optimal focal point?
(A) Udaipur
(B) Jodhpur
(C) Bikaner
(D) Jaisalmer

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78. Consider the following statements regarding Rural and Homestay tourism initiatives in Rajasthan:
I. They promote local art, craft, and the authentic rural lifestyle of Rajasthan.
II. They aim to create alternative supplementary income sources for local agricultural communities.
III. Foreign tourists are strictly prohibited by law from staying in rural homestays for security reasons.
IV. Bishnoi villages near Jodhpur are a prominent example of community-driven eco-rural tourism.
Which of the statements given above are INCORRECT?
(A) I and II only
(B) III only
(C) III and IV only
(D) II and IV only

79. Which rural arts and crafts complex near Udaipur serves as a living ethnographic museum and attracts thousands of tourists annually for its vibrant shopping festivals showcasing regional tribal crafts?
(A) Chokhi Dhani
(B) Jawahar Kala Kendra
(C) Ravindra Manch
(D) Shilpgram

80. Shopping tourism in Jaipur is heavily driven by a unique style of pottery introduced by the Mughals and later patronized by Sawai Ram Singh II, which now holds a Geographical Indication (GI) tag. Which pottery is this?
(A) Kagzi Pottery
(B) Terracotta Pottery
(C) Blue Pottery

(D) Black Pottery

81. To link rural livelihoods with tourism and shopping, the Government frequently organizes the 'Saras Aajeevika Mela'. This fair primarily provides a platform for:
(A) Major corporate jewelers and commercial enterprises to showcase and sell uncut diamonds
(B) Rural women SHGs selling traditional handicrafts directly to tourists
(C) Leading multinational consumer brands and retailers to set up temporary seasonal discount outlets
(D) Agricultural cooperatives and farmers to trade high-yield heavy machinery and modern farm equipment

82. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Rajasthan dominates the 'Destination Wedding' tourism market in India, attracting massive domestic and international clientele.
Reason (R): The state offers a unique combination of majestic historical forts, luxury heritage palace hotels, and robust event-management infrastructure that provides a 'royal' aesthetic.
In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true.

83. Under the 'Rajasthan Homestay (Paying Guest House) Scheme', to ensure the authentic 'homestay' experience and prevent extreme commercialization, what is the maximum number of lettable rooms allowed per property?
(A) 5 rooms
(B) 10 rooms
(C) 15 rooms
(D) 20 rooms

84. Which rural community in the Jodhpur region forms the backbone of a unique eco-tourism circuit due to their centuries-old, strict religious principles centered on the protection of Khejri trees and Blackbucks?
(A) Bhil community
(B) Garasia community
(C) Bishnoi community
(D) Sahariya community

85. Consider the following statements regarding tourist arrival trends in Rajasthan:
I. Historically, the volume of domestic tourists visiting Rajasthan is significantly higher than that of foreign tourists annually.
II. France, the United Kingdom, and the USA have traditionally been among the top source countries for foreign tourists arriving in Rajasthan.
III. Foreign tourist arrivals saw an unprecedented, record-breaking increase during the COVID-19 pandemic years (2020-2021).
Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

86. Historically, Rajasthan observes the peak season for foreign tourist arrivals during which distinct block of months?
(A) April to June
(B) July to September
(C) October to March
(D) May to August

87. Consider the following institutional milestones in Rajasthan's tourism development:
I. Declaration of Tourism as an 'Industry' in Rajasthan
II. Establishment of Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation (RTDC)
III. Launch of the first 'Palace on Wheels' luxury train
IV. Announcement of the first dedicated Tourism Policy of Rajasthan
Which of the following represents the correct chronological order of their occurrence?
(A) II, III, I, IV
(B) I, II, III, IV
(C) II, I, III, IV
(D) III, II, IV, I

88. A major challenge in Rajasthan tourism is its seasonal nature, with a sharp drop in visitors during the summer months. To counter this, the tourism department specifically pivots its marketing during summers to promote:
(A) High-intensity desert dune bashing and camel safari expeditions in deep Jaisalmer

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sand dunes
(B) Open jeep wildlife tracking safaris conducted during peak afternoon temperatures in Ranthambore
(C) Mount Abu hill station stays and luxury resort packages
(D) The annual Pushkar camel trading fair and cultural livestock gathering events

89. A globally famous destination for high-profile luxury weddings, which royal residence in Rajasthan is divided into a royal family residence, a Taj luxury hotel, and a museum?
(A) Jal Mahal Palace, Jaipur
(B) Laxmi Niwas Palace in Bikaner
(C) Jag Mandir Island Palace, Udaipur
(D) Umaid Bhawan Palace, Jodhpur

90. Consider the following statements regarding the infrastructural challenges faced by the Rajasthan tourism sector:
I. Over-commercialization and unregulated construction pose a threat to the structural integrity and aesthetic of sensitive heritage sites.
II. There is a continuous demand for upskilling and training of multi-lingual guides to improve the foreign tourist experience.
III. Severe water scarcity and extreme summer temperatures naturally restrict year-round mainstream tourism in certain arid regions.
IV. Improved road connectivity through Bharatmala and new expressways has severely decreased the number of tourists visiting the state.
Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) I, III, and IV only
(C) II, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

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eco-tourists visit the facility to observe diverse camel breeds, learn about desert pastoralism, and taste camel milk products.

21. (A) Jainism
The Dilwara Temples, situated at Mount Abu, are world-renowned pilgrimage sites dedicated to Jainism, specifically worshiping various Jain Tirthankaras. Constructed between the eleventh and thirteenth centuries using pure white marble, the complex comprises five distinct temples famous for extraordinarily detailed marble ceilings, pillars, and sculpted arches reflecting medieval craftsmanship.

22. (D) It was dug out by the gods using their fingernails
Nakki Lake, positioned centrally in the hill station of Mount Abu, carries rich mythological significance. According to local legend promoted in regional tourism, the lake was excavated by Hindu gods using their fingernails, or nakh, to protect themselves against demonic entities. This sacred story makes it a prominent cultural and recreational lake.

23. (B) The highest peak of the Aravalli Range
Guru Shikhar, rising to an elevation of 1,722 meters above sea level in Mount Abu, holds significant geographical importance as the highest peak of the Aravalli Range. It features a historic temple dedicated to Lord Dattatreya at its summit, attracting geographical enthusiasts, trekkers, and pilgrims seeking scenic panoramic views.

24. (D) All of the above
The annual Winter Festival at Mount Abu is jointly organized by the Rajasthan Tourism Department and the Municipal Board to promote hill tourism. The event features traditional cultural performances showcasing iconic Rajasthani folk dances including Ghoomar, Kalbelia, and Gair. It offers visitors an immersive experience of regional heritage against a scenic backdrop.

25. (D) Sawai Madhopur district
Ranthambore National Park is situated in the Sawai Madhopur district of southeastern Rajasthan, where the Aravalli and Vindhya mountain ranges converge. Declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1955 and a national park in 1980, it serves as one of India's premier tiger reserves, attracting global tourists for wildlife conservation and safari expeditions.

26. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Ranthambore is internationally famous among nature lovers and photographers for regular daytime tiger sightings. The Bengal tigers here have historically grown accustomed to safari vehicles and tourist activity. They frequently hunt and roam open habitats near ancient ruins during daytime hours, providing a complete and valid explanation for the park's global reputation.

27. (B) Padam Talao
Padam Talao is the largest lake located within the central safari core of Ranthambore National Park. Positioned beside the historic Jogi Mahal hunting lodge, the lake serves as a prime watering hole where wild tigers, chital, sambar, and marsh crocodiles gather, making it a pivotal wildlife viewing area during tourist safaris.

28. (B) Trinetra Ganesha
Located inside the historic tenth-century Ranthambore Fort within the tiger reserve, the Trinetra Ganesha Temple is a major religious shrine. Dedicated to the three-eyed Lord Ganesha, it attracts thousands of pilgrims who send invitation letters and prayers. It uniquely combines religious pilgrimage with eco-tourism within a protected forest sanctuary.

29. (A) A major wintering ground for Palaearctic migratory waterfowl
Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur, formerly known as Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary, is a World Heritage natural site. It serves as a crucial man-made wetland supporting thousands of wintering waterfowl from the Palaearctic region, including ducks, geese, pelicans, and storks, making it an essential hub for eco-tourism and birdwatching enthusiasts.

30. (A) I, II, and III only
Sariska Tiger Reserve is situated in Alwar district and contains historic structures like Kankwadi Fort. In 2008, it became the world's first reserve to successfully reintroduce tigers using helicopter airlift transfers from Ranthambore. However, Sariska is not listed as a UNESCO natural World Heritage site, making statement four incorrect.

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as Bhakurcheeria. The fort interior displays exquisite palace structures including Phool Mahal, Moti Mahal, and Sheesh Mahal. However, it is classified as a Giri Durg or Hill Fort, not a Jal Durg, rendering the third statement factually incorrect.

11. (B) Jaswant Thada
Jaswant Thada is a magnificent white marble cenotaph situated near Mehrangarh Fort in Jodhpur. Constructed in 1899 by Maharaja Sardar Singh to commemorate his father, Maharaja Jaswant Singh II, it features intricately carved marble sheets that emit a warm glow when sunlight falls upon them. This striking aesthetic earns it the moniker Taj Mahal of Marwar.

12. (B) Chittar sandstone
Umaid Bhawan Palace in Jodhpur is a premier destination for luxury palace tourism. Built between 1929 and 1943 during the reign of Maharaja Umaid Singh, it was constructed primarily using locally quarried golden-yellow sandstone, popularly termed Chittar sandstone due to its source at Chittar Hill. The palace blends Indo-Saracenic and Art Deco architectural styles.

13. (A) Sam Sand Dunes, Jaisalmer
The annual Desert Festival is a major cultural event organized by Rajasthan Tourism to highlight desert heritage, traditional music, folk dances, and camel competitions. Held amidst the vast sand dunes of Sam, situated roughly 45 kilometers from Jaisalmer city, the festival attracts tourists worldwide to experience the vibrant culture of the Thar desert region.

14. (C) Gold, silver, and brocade threads
Patwon Ki Haveli is a famous historic cluster of five havelis in Jaisalmer built during the nineteenth century. Commissioned by Ghuman Chand Patwa, a prominent merchant, for his five sons, the family made their fortune trading precious items including gold and silver threads, brocades, and embroidery materials along ancient desert trade routes.

15. (D) Yellow sandstone in its construction
Jaisalmer Fort, designated as Sonar Quila or the Golden Fort, is famous for its unique appearance within the Thar Desert. Constructed in 1156 AD by Rawal Jaisal, the entire fort structure, including walls, battlements, and internal mansions, was crafted from local yellow sandstone, which reflects a radiant golden color during sunset hours.

16. (C) Desert National Park
Desert National Park, situated near Jaisalmer and Barmer, encompasses a vast ecosystem within the Thar Desert. It is a vital conservation habitat protecting endangered arid fauna, notably the Great Indian Bustard, chinkara, desert fox, and blackbuck. The park offers wildlife enthusiasts and eco-tourists rare insights into specialized desert bio-diversity and fossil formations.

17. (B) Camel Festival (Bikaner) → Desert Festival (Jaisalmer) → Elephant Festival (Jaipur) → Marwar Festival (Jodhpur)
Rajasthan Tourism organizes cultural festivals aligned with the calendar year. The Bikaner Camel Festival takes place in January, followed by the Jaisalmer Desert Festival in February. The Elephant Festival in Jaipur occurs during March around Holi. Later in autumn, typically in October during the Ashwin month, the Marwar Festival is celebrated in Jodhpur.

18. (D) It is built on the plains rather than on an elevated hill or rocky outcrop
Junagarh Fort in Bikaner is architecturally distinct among major Rajasthani fortifications because it belongs to the Dhanva or Bhu Durg category, constructed on flat plains rather than an elevated hilltop. Built between 1589 and 1594 under Raja Rai Singh, the fort features formidable defensive walls, moats, and ornate palace interiors.

19. (A) Karni Mata Temple
Located in Deshnoke near Bikaner, the Karni Mata Temple is a world-renowned destination for religious tourism. Dedicated to Karni Mata, an incarnation of Goddess Durga, the shrine is famous for harboring over twenty thousand black rats, known locally as Kabbas. Devotees consider eating food nibbled by these rodents to bring divine blessings.

20. (C) National Research Centre on Camel
Bikaner hosts the National Research Centre on Camel at Jorbeer, established under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. It serves as a premier institutional hub dedicated to camel research, breeding, and conservation. Visitors and

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II. It provides interest subvention on loans taken by eligible tourism and hospitality entrepreneurs.
III. It strictly applies only to foreign direct investors operating five-star properties.
Which of the statements given above are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II, and III

65. The Rajasthan Tourism Unit Policy 2015 was formulated with an emphasis on:
(A) Strictly banning the commercial construction of modern multi-storey hotels near protected wildlife sanctuaries
(B) Streamlining regulatory approvals and land allotment for new tourism units
(C) Mandatorily transferring the operational ownership of all ancestral heritage properties to the state-run RTDC
(D) Direct subsidizing of all international round-trip flight tickets for incoming foreign tourists visiting the state

66. To foster public-private partnerships in heritage conservation, Rajasthan actively participates in the 'Adopt a Heritage' scheme. Under this scheme, private entities adopting a monument to provide world-class amenities are officially referred to as:
(A) Dharohar Rakshaks
(B) Heritage Guardians
(C) Paryatan Sevaks
(D) Monument Mitras

67. The Rajasthan Tourism Policy 2020 lays special emphasis on 'Experiential Tourism'. Which of the following tourist activities best exemplifies experiential tourism?
(A) Staying in a rural homestay and participating in local craft and farming activities
(B) Viewing the prominent Jaipur city skyline and monuments from inside a fast-moving air-conditioned luxury tour bus
(C) Visiting the central archives library in Bikaner to read digitized historical state administrative documents
(D) Taking a short commercially operated high-altitude passenger flight over the vast Thar Desert region

68. Adventure tourism is rapidly growing in Rajasthan. Which of the following regions/ cities are currently promoted by the tourism department for commercial Hot Air Ballooning safaris?
(A) Kota and Baran
(B) Bikaner and Churu
(C) Jaipur and Pushkar
(D) Mount Abu and Sirohi

69. The National Chambal Sanctuary is heavily promoted for water-based adventure and wildlife safaris primarily offering tourists the chance to sight which critically endangered species?
(A) Ganges River Dolphin and Gharial
(B) Saltwater Crocodile and coastal Dugong species
(C) Greater One-horned Rhino and Wild Water Buffalo
(D) Freshwater Humpback Mahseer and Olive Ridley Sea Turtle

70. Match the tourist locations in List I with their corresponding primary tourism categories/ attractions in List II:
List I: (Tourist Location)
P. Kuldhara
Q. Samode
R. Tal Chhapar
S. Mount Abu
List II: (Primary Tourism Category/Attraction)
1. Hill Station / Eco-Tourism
2. Blackbuck Wildlife Tourism
3. Heritage Palace / Haveli Tourism
4. Abandoned Village / Dark Tourism
(A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(B) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-3, S-1
(D) P-2, Q-3, R-4, S-1

71. The historic Mehrangarh Fort in Jodhpur has been successful in integrating adventure tourism with heritage by permanently installing which of the following activities for tourists?
(A) White-water rafting along the artificial water-filled moats surrounding the inner fort walls
(B) Ziplining (Flying Fox) across battlements and lakes
(C) Bungee jumping from the elevated platforms of the highest historical watchtower
(D) Deep-water scuba diving inside the historic stepwells and royal water reservoirs

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31. (D) Siberian Crane
The Siberian Crane was historically the flagship migratory species visiting Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur every winter, migrating thousands of kilometers from Arctic Siberia. Due to route hazards and population decline, sightings in Bharatpur ceased after 2002, though the bird remains central to the eco-tourism history of the park.

32. (C) Sariska Tiger Reserve
The Pandupol Hanuman Temple is situated deep inside the core forested valley of Sariska Tiger Reserve in Alwar district. Associated with mythological events from the Mahabharata, the site draws heavy religious tourist traffic every Tuesday and Saturday, blending religious pilgrimage seamlessly with natural forest surrounding within a designated wildlife reserve.

33. (B) Kartik
The world-renowned Pushkar Fair takes place annually in the holy city of Pushkar near Ajmer. Combining a vibrant traditional livestock trading market with religious gatherings, the event reaches its grand culmination on Kartik Poornima, the full moon day of the Hindu lunar month of Kartik, attracting global travelers and pilgrims.

34. (D) Lord Brahma
Pushkar is globally distinguished as a primary center for Hindu pilgrimage because it houses one of the few prominent temples in the world dedicated to Lord Brahma, the creator god. Originally constructed in the fourteenth century with later additions, the temple features a red spire and a four-faced idol.

35. (C) 52
Pushkar Lake, surrounded by hills in Ajmer district, is regarded as a deeply revered water body in Hindu tradition. The lake is encircled by 52 distinct bathing ghats, such as Brahma Ghat and Gau Ghat, where pilgrims perform holy dips and ritual offerings, making it a core site for pilgrimage.

36. (C) Savitri Mata Temple
The Savitri Mata Temple is situated atop Ratnagiri Hill overlooking Pushkar Lake and the surrounding valley. Dedicated to Goddess Savitri, the consort of Lord Brahma, the temple was made easily accessible to pilgrims and tourists through a modern passenger ropeway cable car, providing panoramic views and enhancing hilltop tourism infrastructure.

37. (A) Chishtiyya
The Dargah Sharif in Ajmer is a major Sufi shrine housing the tomb of Hazrat Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti. Arriving in India in the twelfth century, the saint established and popularized the Chishtiyya order of Sufism, emphasizing universal love, equality, and devotion, attracting devotees from all religious backgrounds worldwide.

38. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Religious tourism sites in Rajasthan correlate directly with their geographic locations. The Shrinathji Temple is in Nathdwara (Rajsamand), Dargah Sharif is in Ajmer, Govind Dev Ji Temple is inside the City Palace complex in Jaipur, and the ancient Brahma Temple is situated in Pushkar, establishing the accurate geographic match.

39. (B) Lord Krishna
Nathdwara, located in Rajsamand district, is a major pilgrimage town centered around the seventh-century shrine of Shrinathji. The region is famous for Pichhwai art, traditional cloth paintings serving as temple backdrops that depict detailed episodes from the childhood life, divine play, and stories of Lord Krishna for pilgrims.

40. (C) The death anniversary representing union with God
In Sufi philosophy, the term Urs signifies the death anniversary of a Sufi saint, symbolizing spiritual union with the Divine, known as Visal. The annual Urs festival of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti at Ajmer Dargah draws hundreds of thousands of pilgrims for prayer offerings, qawwali singing, and religious observances.

41. (C) 2021
The Government of Rajasthan formally announced the revised Rajasthan Ecotourism Policy in July 2021. Designed to conserve forest ecosystems, foster sustainable environmental practices, and generate livelihood opportunities for local communities, the policy provides strategic framework for developing eco-parks, nature trails, and wildlife sanctuaries across all districts.

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9. In which year was the North Western Railway (NWR) zone, headquartered in Jaipur, formally established and made operational?
(A) 1996
(B) 2000
(C) 2002
(D) 2006

10. The first commercial operational stretch of the Jaipur Metro (Phase 1A) connects which of the following two stations?
(A) Mansarovar to Chandpole
(B) Mansarovar to Badi Chaupar
(C) Ambabari to Sitapura
(D) Chandpole to Ram Nagar

11. Which of the following airports is recognized as the first greenfield airport developed in Rajasthan?
(A) Maharana Pratap Airport
(B) Kishangarh Airport
(C) Jodhpur Civil Enclave
(D) Nal Airport

12. Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in Rajasthan:
I. The scheme was launched in the year 2000 to provide all-weather road connectivity to unconnected habitations.
II. The funding pattern between the Centre and the State for Rajasthan is currently shared at 60:40.
III. The minimum population norm for connecting habitations in desert areas is 250.
IV. The nodal executing agency for this scheme in the state is the Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation (RSRTC).
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

13. Where was the first Inland Container Depot (ICD) / Dry Port in Rajasthan established by RAJSICO in 1989?
(A) Mansarovar, Jaipur
(B) Bhiwadi Industrial Area, Alwar
(C) Basni Industrial Area, Jodhpur
(D) Bhilwara Industrial Zone

14. In which year was the famous luxury heritage train 'Palace on Wheels' launched to promote tourism in Rajasthan?
(A) 1978
(B) 1982
(C) 1991
(D) 1995

15. The Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation (RSRTC) was established on 1st October of which year?
(A) 1956
(B) 1960
(C) 1964
(D) 1972

16. Consider the following statements regarding the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway segment in Rajasthan:
I. The total length of the expressway passing through Rajasthan is approximately 373 km.
II. It directly passes through the municipal limits of Jaipur city.
III. It is an access-controlled, 8-lane greenfield expressway.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

17. The Zonal Railway Training Institute for the North Western Railway in Rajasthan is located in which city?
(A) Jaipur
(B) Udaipur
(C) Jodhpur
(D) Ajmer

18. Which of the following railway zones does NOT have territorial jurisdiction over any part of the railway network in Rajasthan?
(A) North Western Railway (NWR)
(B) West Central Railway (WCR)
(C) Northern Railway (NR)
(D) South Central Railway (SCR)

19. Project Chetak, established by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) for constructing and maintaining strategic border roads in Rajasthan, is headquartered at:
(A) Bikaner
(B) Jaisalmer
(C) Barmer

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52. (C) 1950
Official guidelines issued by the Ministry of Tourism classify historic properties into Heritage, Heritage Classic, and Heritage Grand categories. To qualify for official heritage hotel status, the structure—whether fort, palace, castle, or haveli—must have been constructed prior to January 1, 1950, preserving authentic historical architectural attributes.

53. (A) Safdarjung Railway Station, New Delhi
The Palace on Wheels luxury tourist train traditionally begins its seven-night itinerary from Safdarjung Railway Station in New Delhi. It journeys through iconic Rajasthan destinations, including Jaipur, Sawai Madhopur, Chittorgarh, Udaipur, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, and Bharatpur, before visiting Agra and returning back to its originating terminal in New Delhi.

54. (A) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
Palace on Wheels pioneered luxury train tourism in 1982. Royal Rajasthan on Wheels was launched in 2009 as an upgraded companion train. Maharajas' Express is an ultra-luxury train operating pan-India heritage routes through Rajasthan, while the historic Fairy Queen is propelled by the world's oldest functional steam locomotive.

55. (B) Mount Abu
The standard circuit route of the Palace on Wheels includes Jaipur, Sawai Madhopur, Chittorgarh, Udaipur, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Bharatpur, and Agra. Mount Abu is excluded from its scheduled itinerary due to geographic elevation constraints and absence of direct broad-gauge rail connection into the main hill town center.

56. (B) 1982
The Palace on Wheels was officially launched on January 26, 1982, as a joint venture between Indian Railways and the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation. Utilizing refurbished royal saloons formerly owned by princely state rulers, the luxury train revolutionized heritage tourism marketing across international and domestic target markets.

57. (C) 6
In June 2013, during its 37th session held in Phnom Penh, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee inscribed six historic hill forts of Rajasthan onto the World Heritage List. This UNESCO serial designation specifically comprises Amer Fort, Chittorgarh Fort, Gagron Fort, Jaisalmer Fort, Kumbhalgarh Fort, and Ranthambore Fort.

58. (B) III only
The six forts included in the UNESCO Hill Forts of Rajasthan cluster are Amer, Chittorgarh, Gagron, Jaisalmer, Kumbhalgarh, and Ranthambore. Taragarh Fort in Ajmer is not among them. The Walled City of Jaipur, Jantar Mantar, and Keoladeo National Park are recognized UNESCO sites, making statement three incorrect.

59. (B) Its extensive 36-km long continuous perimeter wall
Built by Maharana Kumbha in the fifteenth century, Kumbhalgarh Fort features a massive stone wall extending thirty-six kilometers along the Aravalli hills. Broad enough to accommodate four horses abreast, this continuous defensive fortification is widely celebrated as the Great Wall of India, ranking second globally in length.

60. (A) Keoladeo National Park → Jantar Mantar (Jaipur) → Hill Forts of Rajasthan → Walled City of Jaipur
Keoladeo National Park was inscribed as a natural UNESCO site in 1985. Jantar Mantar in Jaipur achieved cultural World Heritage recognition in 2010. The serial site Hill Forts of Rajasthan was designated in 2013, followed by the Walled City of Jaipur in 2019, reflecting the accurate chronological sequence.

61. (A) Gagron Fort
Located in Jhalawar district, Gagron Fort represents an exemplary model of Jal Durg, or Water Fort, among the six UNESCO Hill Forts of Rajasthan. Surrounded on three sides by the confluence of the Ahu and Kali Sindh rivers, it lacks elevated foundations and relies on surrounding waters for defensive advantage.

62. (B) 1989
In 1989, Rajasthan became the first state in India to grant official Industry status to tourism, acting upon recommendations from the Mohammad Yunus Committee. This decision enabled tourism projects to access institutional credit, industrial power tariffs, and state development incentives,

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accelerating tourism infrastructure across the state.

63. (D) They become eligible for industrial tariffs on electricity and various government subsidies.
Granting Thrust Sector status to tourism under state industrial investment policies enables tourism and hospitality units to benefit directly from industrial electricity tariffs instead of higher commercial rates. Additionally, eligible enterprises gain access to capital subsidies, interest subvention, and land allotment concessions, significantly lowering operational expenditures for businesses.

64. (A) I and II only
The Mukhyamantri Paryatan Udyog Sambal Yojana was launched in 2021 to assist tourism businesses impacted by pandemic disruptions. It provides interest subvention on loans up to twenty-five lakh rupees. The scheme supports small micro-enterprises and local entrepreneurs rather than foreign direct investors exclusively, rendering statement three incorrect.

65. (B) Streamlining regulatory approvals and land allotment for new tourism units
The Rajasthan Tourism Unit Policy 2015 focused primarily on easing administrative procedures, simplifying land conversion rules, encouraging private investment, and facilitating fast-track clearances for setting up new hotels, resorts, and tourism projects. It established investor-friendly guidelines to build modern hospitality infrastructure across urban and rural sectors.

66. (D) Monument Mitras
Under the Adopt a Heritage initiative, launched by the Ministry of Tourism in collaboration with state departments, corporate entities, and individuals who adopt heritage monuments to enhance visitor amenities are designated as Monument Mitras. They take responsibility for maintaining cleanliness, drinking water, lighting, and accessibility features.

67. (A) Staying in a rural homestay and participating in local craft and farming activities
Experiential tourism prioritizes immersive, hands-on activities that directly connect visitors with local communities, traditional customs, and natural environments. Living in a rural village homestay, taking part in traditional craft creation, and participating in agricultural practices best exemplifies experiential tourism by facilitating authentic cultural engagement and local interaction.

68. (C) Jaipur and Pushkar
Hot Air Ballooning is an established licensed adventure sport offered in Rajasthan, promoted actively by the state tourism department to offer unique aerial views of historic landscapes. Jaipur and Pushkar serve as the primary operational hubs for commercial balloon safaris, taking passengers high above forts, palaces, lakes, and sand dunes.

69. (A) Ganges River Dolphin and Gharial
The National Chambal Sanctuary, located along the tri-junction of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh, protects aquatic fauna. Water safaris along the Chambal River allow eco-tourists to observe critically endangered species, specifically the fish-eating Gharial crocodile and the rare Ganges River Dolphin, alongside various turtles and migratory birds.

70. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Kuldhara near Jaisalmer is an abandoned historic village associated with dark tourism. Samode in Jaipur district is celebrated for grand palace and haveli heritage hospitality. Tal Chhapar Sanctuary in Churu is famous for blackbuck wildlife conservation, and Mount Abu represents the state's sole hill station designated for eco-tourism.

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71. (B) Ziplining (Flying Fox) across battlements and lakes
Mehrangarh Fort in Jodhpur successfully integrated heritage conservation with adventure sports by featuring a commercial zipline operator. The Flying Fox circuit allows tourists to glide safely along zip cables stretched across the fort's stone ramparts, battlements, and surrounding lakes, offering breathtaking aerial views of the historic Blue City.

72. (C) Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions
In the tourism industry, the acronym MICE stands for Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions. It refers to a specialized sector of business tourism catering to corporate events, international summits, trade conventions, and incentive travel, which Rajasthan actively

targets using modern convention centers and heritage hotel infrastructure.

73. (D) Sitapura
The Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Centre is a modern specialized venue for large-scale international exhibitions, corporate trade fairs, and national conventions. Located within the Sitapura Industrial and Institutional Area of Jaipur, JECC provides world-class convention halls, outdoor exhibition spaces, and business amenities supporting state MICE tourism.

74. (A) Corporate groups, industry professionals, and delegates
MICE tourism specifically targets corporate clients, commercial enterprises, industry professionals, and conference delegates. Unlike traditional leisure or religious tourism, MICE attracts business travelers attending conventions, trade fairs, corporate meetings, and organizational incentive trips, generating high per-capita spending across local hospitality, dining, and transport sectors.

75. (A) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
Thewa art involving intricate gold work fused on glass originates in Pratapgarh. Usta art featuring fine gold painting on camel hide belongs to Bikaner. Molela village in Rajsamand district is famous for terracotta votive plaques, while Azrakh block printing on textiles is traditionally practiced in Barmer.

76. (B) Mount Abu – Desert Tourism
Mount Abu is located in the Aravalli mountain range in Sirohi district and serves as Rajasthan's only hill station, making its primary classification eco-tourism and hill station tourism. Classifying Mount Abu under desert tourism is geographically incorrect, unlike Jaisalmer, Kumbhalgarh, and Ranthambore which correctly correspond to their categories.

77. (A) Udaipur
Udaipur, known as the City of Lakes, is the ideal focal point for combining grand heritage palace tourism with lake tourism. Surrounded by interconnecting water bodies like Lake Pichola and Fateh Sagar, the city houses iconic structures such as City Palace, Lake Palace, and Jagmandir directly integrated with lakefront views.

78. (B) III only
Rural and homestay tourism initiatives in Rajasthan aim to preserve cultural art forms and generate supplemental revenue for agricultural families. International tourists are permitted and encouraged to stay in registered rural homestays under official government guidelines, rendering statement three incorrect, while Bishnoi community tourism exemplifies successful eco-rural practices.

79. (D) Shilpgram
Shilpgram is a rural arts and crafts complex situated near Udaipur, operated by the West Zone Cultural Centre. Functioning as a living ethnographic museum, it showcases traditional rural housing, tribal arts, and crafts from western states, attracting domestic and foreign tourists during its annual craft fair held every December.

80. (C) Blue Pottery
Blue Pottery is an internationally acclaimed craft centered in Jaipur, possessing a Geographical Indication tag. Introduced through Turko-Persian influences and patronized by Maharaja Sawai Ram Singh II in the nineteenth century, it utilizes quartz dough rather than clay, producing vibrant turquoise blue decorative items favored by shopping tourists.

81. (B) Rural women SHGs selling traditional handicrafts directly to tourists
The Saras Aajeevika Mela is organized under state rural livelihood initiatives to empower rural women associated with Self-Help Groups. The fair provides a direct national market platform where rural artisans exhibit and sell traditional handcrafted items, textiles, and organic food products directly to tourists and urban consumers without middleman intervention.

82. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Rajasthan leads India's destination wedding market due to its rich concentration of restored heritage palaces, forts, and luxury hotels offering royal aesthetics. Supported by established event management infrastructure, high-end hospitality, and scenic historical backdrops, the state attracts affluent couples globally, making the reason a complete and valid explanation.

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42. (A) I and II only
The Rajasthan Rural Tourism Scheme was formulated to boost rural entrepreneurship, heritage preservation, and local employment through homestays and farm stays. It grants various financial benefits, including a hundred percent stamp duty exemption. Both domestic and international visitors are allowed, making the third statement factually wrong.

43. (B) To create district eco-tourism parks showcasing local flora and fauna
Under the state eco-tourism initiatives, Luv Kush Vatikas are being constructed across every district in Rajasthan. These eco-friendly public parks feature natural greenery, walking paths, native plant species, and educational displays. Their main objective is to promote nature awareness, environmental conservation, and local recreational eco-tourism among residents and visitors.

44. (B) 'Bird Village' due to abundant migratory birds at its lakes
Menar village in Udaipur district has gained international recognition as a pioneer community-managed bird sanctuary, earning the nickname Bird Village. Local ponds like Brahma and Dhandh attract diverse migratory bird species annually. Community-led conservation efforts protect the avian habitat, turning the village into an important eco-tourism destination.

45. (B) 1978
The Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation Limited was incorporated as a state government undertaking in November 1978, commencing full commercial operations in 1979. Acting as the primary operational agency, RTDC manages public accommodation, luxury tourist trains, package tours, and tourist transport infrastructure across Rajasthan.

46. (C) Luxury tourist trains like Palace on Wheels
A cornerstone operational responsibility of the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation, in joint venture with Indian Railways, is managing luxury tourist trains. Most notably, the Palace on Wheels offers high-end international and domestic travelers an all-inclusive heritage rail circuit through Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Sawai Madhopur, and Agra.

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47. (D) Bikaner
The Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation operates a wide network of state tourist bungalows named after regional cultural folklore and local icons. Hotel Dhola Maru is an RTDC property situated in Bikaner, providing budget-friendly accommodations, dining facilities, and guided assistance for travelers visiting the city's historic forts and shrines.

48. (C) Issuing commercial aviation licenses for private flights
RTDC manages public accommodations, operates tourist bus fleets, organizes package tours, and runs the hospitality operations of luxury heritage trains like Palace on Wheels. Granting air transport licenses and commercial aviation regulations falls under the central jurisdiction of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, not RTDC.

49. (B) To offer affordable stays with local cultural exposure and home-cooked cuisine
The Paying Guest Scheme was introduced by Rajasthan Tourism to provide affordable accommodation options for domestic and foreign travelers while encouraging authentic cultural immersion. By allowing visitors to stay with local families, tourists experience genuine hospitality, regional customs, and home-cooked culinary offerings while generating local household income.

50. (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
The conversion of ancestral properties into heritage hotels has decentralized tourism beyond main urban hubs into rural regions. Restoring decaying fortresses, palaces, and havelis provides unique heritage lodging while creating direct rural employment, preserving architectural heritage, and boosting local supply chains, making the reason a valid explanation.

51. (A) Ajit Bhawan, Jodhpur
Ajit Bhawan in Jodhpur is recognized as India's very first heritage hotel. Built in 1927 for Maharaj Ajit Singh, the younger brother of Maharaja Umaid Singh, the estate was converted into a luxury heritage hotel during the late 1970s, pioneering private heritage hospitality in the Indian tourism sector.

CHAPTER 23
Transport of Rajasthan

1. Under the older numbering system, which of the following National Highways covered the longest distance within the state of Rajasthan?
(A) NH 8
(B) NH 15
(C) NH 11
(D) NH 12

2. Which district in Rajasthan records the highest road density?
(A) Jaipur
(B) Alwar
(C) Udaipur
(D) Rajsamand

3. Due to its vast geographical area and desert terrain, which district in Rajasthan has the lowest road density?
(A) Jaisalmer
(B) Barmer
(C) Bikaner
(D) Churu

4. Match the Airports in List I with their respective locations in List II:
List I: (Airports)
P. Maharana Pratap Airport
Q. Nal Airport
R. Uttarlai Airport
S. Kishangarh Airport
List II: (Locations)
1. Bikaner
2. Barmer
3. Ajmer
4. Udaipur
(A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(B) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2
(C) P-4, Q-2, R-1, S-3
(D) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4

5. In which year did Rajasthan become the first state in India to formulate a comprehensive State Road Policy?
(A) 1994
(B) 1998
(C) 2001
(D) 2005

6. The Rajasthan State Road Development and Construction Corporation (RSRDC) was originally established in 1979 under which of the following names?
(A) Rajasthan State Highway Authority and Infrastructure
(B) Rajasthan Public Works and State Roadways Board
(C) Rajasthan Rural Roads and Infrastructure Corporation
(D) Rajasthan State Bridge and Construction Corporation

7. The Road Infrastructure Development Company of Rajasthan (RIDCOR) is a joint venture between the Government of Rajasthan and which entity?
(A) Asian Development Bank Infrastructure Division (ADB)
(B) Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS)
(C) World Bank Infrastructure Development Group (WBIDG)
(D) National Highways Authority of India Development (NHAI)

8. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Road transport acts as the predominant mode of freight and passenger movement in Rajasthan.
Reason (R): Rajasthan lacks navigable inland waterways and has an uneven railway density due to geographical constraints.
In the context of the above statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) (A) is true but (R) is false
(D) (A) is false but (R) is true

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Rajasthan. Which of the following is NOT one of them?
(A) Bikaner
(B) Sikar
(C) Jaipur
(D) Ajmer

30. Approximately what percentage of the total length of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) lies within the state of Rajasthan?
(A) 15%
(B) 25%
(C) 39%
(D) 55%

31. The Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC), which heavily benefits Rajasthan's logistics infrastructure, is being developed in collaboration with which country?
(A) Germany
(B) United States
(C) France
(D) Japan

32. Select the correct chronological sequence of the following transport developments in Rajasthan, from earliest to latest:
1. Launch of the Palace on Wheels
2. Commercial launch of Jaipur Metro Phase-1A
3. Establishment of North Western Railway (NWR) Headquarters
4. Jaipur Airport gaining international status

(A) 1, 3, 4, 2
(B) 1, 4, 3, 2
(C) 3, 1, 4, 2
(D) 1, 3, 2, 4

33. Under Phase III of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), the primary focus in Rajasthan shifted towards:
(A) Connecting isolated tribal hamlets and remote rural habitations having population of less than 100 residents
(B) Consolidation of existing rural road networks linking them to rural agricultural markets
(C) Upgrading single-lane state highways and major district roads to full double-lane standards
(D) Constructing new bypasses around major urban centers and heavily congested industrial towns

34. The first railway train in Rajasthan operated in the year 1874 on which of the following routes?
(A) Jaipur to Ajmer
(B) Jodhpur to Bikaner
(C) Udaipur to Chittorgarh
(D) Agra Fort to Bandikui

35. Which of the following districts does NOT fall on the route of the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway as it traverses through Rajasthan?
(A) Banswara
(B) Alwar
(C) Dausa
(D) Sawai Madhopur

36. Consider the following statements about the Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation (RSRTC):
I. It was established on 1st October 1964 under the Road Transport Act, 1950.
II. Its headquarters is located in Jaipur.
III. It provides a 100% fare concession for women passengers on all ordinary state buses.
IV. It operates inter-state bus services to neighbouring states like Haryana and Gujarat.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II only
(B) III only
(C) II and IV only
(D) I, III, and IV only

37. The Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation Limited (RAJSICO) manages several Inland Container Depots (ICDs) to facilitate export. At which of the following locations does RAJSICO NOT operate an ICD?
(A) Bikaner
(B) Jaipur
(C) Jodhpur
(D) Bhilwara

38. The implementation of the Bharatmala Pariyojana in Rajasthan primarily focuses on improving which type of infrastructure?
(A) Dedicated heavy-haul freight railway lines and industrial feeder routes
(B) Inland waterways navigation and riverine passenger transport networks
(C) Greenfield commercial airports and civil enclaves in tribal districts
(D) Border and coastal road connectivity, along with economic corridors

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(D) Sri Ganganagar

20. Arrange the following major railway junction cities of Rajasthan in geographical order from North to South:
1. Sri Ganganagar
2. Bikaner
3. Jodhpur
4. Udaipur

Which of the following is the correct order?
(A) 1, 2, 3, 4
(B) 1, 3, 2, 4
(C) 2, 1, 3, 4
(D) 1, 2, 4, 3

21. Among the various classifications of roads in Rajasthan, which category accounts for the maximum route length?
(A) Rural/Village Roads
(B) National Highways
(C) State Highways
(D) Major District Roads

22. In which year did the Jaipur Airport officially receive the status of an International Airport?
(A) 2001
(B) 2005
(C) 2009
(D) 2012

23. What is the primary objective of the 'Moksha Kalash Yojana' operated by the Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation (RSRTC)?
(A) To provide free emergency transport for rural pregnant women to district government hospitals
(B) To provide free bus travel for two family members for the immersion of ashes in Haridwar
(C) To offer subsidized state transport travel for senior citizens visiting religious shrines in Rajasthan
(D) To transport potable drinking water to drought-affected desert villages across the state

24. Match the old National Highway numbers in List I with their corresponding primary alignments in Rajasthan in List II:
List I: (Old National Highways)
P. Old NH 8
Q. Old NH 15
R. Old NH 11
S. Old NH 12

List II: (Alignments)
1. Agra to Bikaner via Jaipur
2. Jaipur to Jabalpur via Kota
3. Delhi to Mumbai via Jaipur and Udaipur
4. Pathankot to Samakhiali via Western Rajasthan

(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

25. The track system utilized by the Jaipur Metro rail network operates on which of the following gauges?
(A) Indian Broad Gauge (1676 mm)
(B) Standard Gauge (1435 mm)
(C) Meter Gauge Track (1000 mm)
(D) Narrow Gauge Track (762 mm)

26. Historically, which district in Rajasthan has had minimal to no railway line connectivity, prompting recent developmental proposals?
(A) Banswara
(B) Dungarpur
(C) Pratapgarh
(D) Jhalawar

27. What is the approximate total railway route length in Rajasthan?
(A) 3,000 km
(B) 4,500 km
(C) 6,000 km
(D) 9,500 km

28. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): Maintaining border and rural roads in western Rajasthan involves significantly higher recurring costs compared to other regions.
Reason (R): Shifting sand dunes and high-velocity winds frequently cover and degrade the road surfaces in the Thar Desert.
In the context of the above statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) (A) is true but (R) is false
(D) (A) is false but (R) is true

29. The Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) passes through several districts in

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83. (A) 5 rooms
Under the official Rajasthan Homestay Scheme guidelines, residential property owners can offer a maximum of five lettable rooms, or twenty beds, for tourist accommodation. Setting this strict room limit ensures properties retain an authentic family homestay atmosphere, preventing full commercial conversion while maintaining local cultural interaction for visiting guests.

84. (C) Bishnoi community
The Bishnoi community residing around Jodhpur forms the foundation of community eco-tourism due to their religious adherence to twenty-nine tenets established by Guru Jambheshwar. Dedicated to preserving local flora and fauna, they fiercely protect Khejri trees and wildlife like Blackbucks, providing tourists with inspiring real-world examples of nature conservation.

85. (A) I and II only
Domestic tourist footfalls in Rajasthan consistently outnumber foreign tourist arrivals by a very wide margin. Traditional source markets for international tourists visiting the state include European countries like France and the UK alongside the USA. However, foreign tourist arrivals severely dropped during 2020-2021 due to global COVID-19 travel restrictions.

86. (C) October to March
Rajasthan experiences its peak season for foreign tourist arrivals during the cooler winter months spanning October through March. Favorable weather conditions during this timeframe facilitate comfortable sightseeing across desert terrains and heritage sites, coinciding with major cultural celebrations like the Pushkar Fair, Desert Festival, and Jaipur Literature Festival.

87. (A) II, III, I, IV
The Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation was first established in 1978. The pioneer Palace on Wheels luxury train launched commercial operations in 1982. Tourism was officially declared an Industry in Rajasthan in 1989, and the state government announced its first dedicated Tourism Policy in 2001, establishing the accurate chronological sequence.

88. (C) Mount Abu hill station stays and luxury resort packages
Due to extreme summer temperatures across arid desert regions, mainstream tourism drops significantly during May and June. To maintain visitor engagement, the tourism department shifts marketing efforts toward Mount Abu, the state's premier hill station, promoting its cooler climate, Nakki Lake boating, scenic forests, and indoor luxury resort retreats.

89. (D) Umaid Bhawan Palace, Jodhpur
Umaid Bhawan Palace in Jodhpur is a world-renowned destination for high-profile luxury weddings and heritage tourism. The grand structure is divided into three distinct operational functional sections: the private residence of the former Jodhpur royal family, a five-star luxury heritage hotel managed by Taj Hotels, and a public museum.

90. (A) I, II, and III only
Unregulated commercial construction near heritage sites, training demands for multi-lingual guides, and extreme summer heat coupled with regional water scarcity present significant ongoing operational challenges for tourism in Rajasthan. Conversely, improved road infrastructure through expressways and Bharatmala has boosted tourist mobility, rendering the fourth statement factually incorrect.

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39. Which district in Rajasthan possesses the highest total length of roads?
(A) Jodhpur
(B) Barmer
(C) Jaipur
(D) Bikaner

40. Consider the following statements regarding the Jaipur Metro:
I. Phase 1 of the Jaipur Metro was funded with financial assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
II. The entire Phase 1 (both 1A and 1B segments) is built completely underground.
III. It operates on a standard gauge track system.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?
(A) I only
(B) II only
(C) III only
(D) I and III only

41. In contrast to Barmer, which district in Rajasthan has the lowest total length of roads due to its small geographical area?
(A) Dausa
(B) Dungarpur
(C) Pratapgarh
(D) Dholpur

42. The PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan's implementation in Rajasthan primarily aims to achieve which of the following?
(A) Multi-modal connectivity and integrated planning of logistics infrastructure
(B) Complete privatization and commercial tolling of all major state highways across Rajasthan
(C) Free public bus transport and subsidized fares for all rural citizens in the state
(D) Exclusively developing civil aviation infrastructure and regional airstrips across all districts

43. Which city in Rajasthan is historically renowned for the manufacturing of railway wagons and hosts the CIMMCO wagon factory?
(A) City of Ajmer
(B) Bharatpur
(C) City of Kota
(D) City of Alwar

44. Match the transport terminology in List I with their definitions in List II:
List I: (Terminology)
P. Inland Container Depot (ICD)
Q. Ro-Ro Service
R. Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT)
S. FASTag
List II: (Definitions)
1. A public-private partnership model for infrastructure execution
2. An electronic toll collection system using RFID technology
3. A dry port handling customs clearance for sea-bound cargo
4. Trains carrying loaded trucks directly to destinations
(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
(C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(D) P-1, Q-2, R-3, S-4

45. In the context of rural transport development in Rajasthan, what does the term 'missing link' refer to?
(A) Unconnected road patches between a village and the nearby main road or market
(B) A complete lack of direct railway line connectivity between two major district headquarters
(C) Discontinued intercity and rural bus routes formerly operated by the RSRTC
(D) Absence of operational civil air connectivity in strategic border districts of the state

46. To emphasize passenger safety and regulation, the Transport Department of Rajasthan changed its official name to:
(A) Department of Mobility and Transport
(B) Directorate of State Highways and Transport
(C) Transport and Road Safety Department
(D) Logistics and Transport Authority of Rajasthan

47. Which of the following is NOT identified as an investment region or industrial node under the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) in Rajasthan?
(A) Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana
(B) Jodhpur-Pali-Marwar
(C) Ajmer-Kishangarh
(D) Bikaner-Suratgarh

48. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The Western Dedicated Freight

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Corridor (WDFC) is expected to significantly boost industrialization in Rajasthan.
Reason (R): The WDFC completely eliminates the need for road transport across all districts of Rajasthan.
In the context of the above statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) (A) is true but (R) is false
(D) (A) is false but (R) is true

49. The core objective of the Rajasthan State Highway Development Project (RSHDP), supported by international financial institutions, is to:
(A) Convert all existing state highways across Rajasthan into national highways
(B) Upgrade selected state highways to two-lane or four-lane standards
(C) Eliminate toll collection completely on all state-managed highways and roads
(D) Replace long-distance road transport entirely with dedicated freight railways

50. How does the average road density of Rajasthan compare to the national average of India?
(A) It is nearly double the national average.
(B) It is approximately equal to the national average.
(C) It is roughly half of the national average.
(D) It is marginally higher than the national average.

51. Which of the following luxury tourist trains does NOT operate its itinerary within the state of Rajasthan?
(A) Deccan Odyssey
(B) Palace on Wheels
(C) Royal Rajasthan on Wheels
(D) Maharaja Express

52. Arrange the following districts of Rajasthan in the correct sequence as the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway passes through them from North to South:
1. Alwar
2. Dausa
3. Sawai Madhopur
4. Kota

Which of the following is the correct order?
(A) 1, 2, 3, 4
(B) 2, 1, 3, 4
(C) 1, 3, 2, 4
(D) 1, 2, 4, 3

53. The primary logistical advantage provided by the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) for industries located in Rajasthan is:
(A) Faster movement of containerized goods to western seaports like Kandla and JNPT
(B) Cheaper and more frequent domestic passenger train travel across all major districts of the state
(C) Direct high-speed rail connectivity to strategic international border regions adjoining Pakistan
(D) Uninterrupted bulk supply and transport of potable water to drought-prone desert districts

54. The first Vande Bharat Express introduced in Rajasthan commenced its operations on which of the following routes?
(A) Jaipur Junction to Jodhpur Junction
(B) Udaipur City to Jaipur Junction
(C) Bikaner to New Delhi
(D) Ajmer to Delhi Cantt

55. Under the FAME-II scheme aiming to reform public transport, electric bus operations in Rajasthan were primarily initiated in which set of cities?
(A) Jaisalmer, Barmer, Bikaner
(B) Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota
(C) Udaipur, Chittorgarh, Bhilwara
(D) Alwar, Bharatpur, Dholpur

56. Match the Railway Zones operating in Rajasthan in List I with their respective Headquarters in List II:
List I: (Railway Zones)
P. North Western Railway (NWR)
Q. West Central Railway (WCR)
R. North Central Railway (NCR)
S. Northern Railway (NR)
List II: (Headquarters)
1. Jabalpur
2. Prayagraj (Allahabad)
3. Jaipur
4. New Delhi
(A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
(C) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2
(D) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

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57. The primary purpose of establishing Automated Testing Stations (ATS) in Rajasthan's transport sector is to:
(A) Automatically issue driving licenses to private motor vehicle owners without requiring manual field testing
(B) Monitor illegal border smuggling activities automatically using advanced aerial drone surveillance systems
(C) Weigh heavy freight cargo automatically across strategic checkposts on state railway freight corridors
(D) Automated fitness testing of commercial vehicles to ensure roadworthiness

58. Which civil aviation facility in Rajasthan also functions as a highly strategic underground airbase for the Indian Air Force?
(A) Nal Airport
(B) Maharana Pratap Airport
(C) Sanganer Airport
(D) Kishangarh Airport

59. At civil enclaves in Rajasthan, such as the Jodhpur Airport, the Air Traffic Control (ATC) operations are primarily managed by:
(A) Airports Authority of India (AAI)
(B) Indian Air Force (IAF)
(C) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)
(D) Rajasthan Civil Aviation Department

60. Consider the following statements regarding the Palace on Wheels:
I. It was launched in 1982 to promote heritage tourism in Rajasthan.
II. It is operated as a joint venture between the RTDC and Indian Railways.
III. The train originally operated on meter gauge before being upgraded to broad gauge in the 1990s.
IV. It operates continuously throughout the year, including the peak monsoon season.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I, II, and III only
(B) II, III, and IV only
(C) I, III, and IV only
(D) I, II, III, and IV

61. The international rail link known as the 'Thar Express' connected Munabao in Rajasthan to which railway station in Pakistan?
(A) Khokhrapar
(B) Lahore
(C) Karachi
(D) Mirpur Khas

62. Due to bilateral tensions, the operations of the Thar Express were indefinitely suspended in which year?
(A) 2016
(B) 2019
(C) 2020
(D) 2022

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63. Funds allocated to Rajasthan from the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF) are predominantly utilized for:
(A) Constructing international airports
(B) Subsidizing the purchase of personal electric vehicles
(C) Developing inland waterways
(D) Upgrading state highways and major district roads

64. Consider the following statements about the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) in Rajasthan:
I. It operates under the administrative control of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
II. Project Chetak is primarily responsible for maintaining strategic border roads in Rajasthan.
III. BRO infrastructure provides vital connectivity in the Thar desert for both military and civilian use.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
(A) I and II only
(B) II and III only
(C) I and III only
(D) I, II and III

65. The primary reason for the extensive development of Inland Container Depots (Dry Ports) in Rajasthan is that:
(A) Rajasthan experiences frequent seasonal flooding in desert zones, necessitating dry elevated storage facilities
(B) Rajasthan is landlocked, and dry ports speed up customs clearance for sea cargo
(C) Dry ports generate solar grid electricity to power the entire regional electrified railway network
(D) Dry ports are legally mandated by the World Bank for all arid and desert states seeking infrastructure grants

rail operations across Rajasthan and parts of neighboring states to streamline administration and transport efficiency.

10. (A) Mansarovar to Chandpole
Phase 1A of the Jaipur Metro was the initial operational line inaugurated for public service in June 2015. Spanning a distance of nearly 9.6 kilometers, this elevated and underground stretch connected the residential hub of Mansarovar to the historic walled city area at Chandpole, marking the beginning of rapid urban rail transit in Rajasthan.

11. (B) Kishangarh Airport
Kishangarh Airport, located near Ajmer, is recognized as the first greenfield airport constructed in Rajasthan. Built entirely on new land with modern infrastructure by the Airports Authority of India, it was developed to promote civil aviation, improve regional connectivity under regional flying schemes, and support the prominent marble and textile business hubs of central Rajasthan.

12. (A) I, II, and III only
The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana was introduced in 2000 to offer reliable all-weather roads to rural habitations. Funding is shared 60:40 between the Central and State governments. In desert regions, habitations with populations of 250 and above qualify. The Public Works Department acts as the nodal executing body, not the state road transport corporation.

13. (A) Mansarovar, Jaipur
The Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation Limited set up the state's very first Inland Container Depot at Mansarovar in Jaipur in 1989. This dry port facility was established to provide direct export-import customs clearance, container handling, and warehousing support to regional exporters, eliminating the need to process commercial cargo directly at distant maritime seaports.

14. (B) 1982
The iconic luxury train Palace on Wheels was launched in January 1982 through a joint venture between Indian Railways and the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation. Designed to showcase Rajasthan's royal heritage, forts, and desert landscape to international and domestic travelers, it revolutionized luxury rail tourism in India and set benchmark standards for heritage travel circuits.

15. (C) 1964
The Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation was formally incorporated on October 1, 1964, under the statutory provisions of the Road Transport Corporations Act of 1950. Headquartered in Jaipur, it was established to provide economical, efficient, safe, and well-coordinated passenger road transport services across rural, suburban, and urban inter-state routes connecting Rajasthan with neighboring states.

16. (B) I and III only
The Delhi-Mumbai Expressway spans approximately 373 kilometers across Rajasthan as an eight-lane, access-controlled greenfield highway designed to improve freight and travel efficiency. It passes through eastern districts like Alwar, Dausa, Sawai Madhopur, and Kota while completely bypassing dense urban municipal limits, including Jaipur city, to maintain high design speeds and eliminate local congestion.

17. (B) Udaipur
The Zonal Railway Training Institute for the North Western Railway zone is located in Udaipur. Established to deliver specialized technical, operational, and administrative training to railway personnel, this institute equips staff across multiple railway cadres with essential skill sets required for maintaining safe, efficient, and modern railway transportation operations across the regional network.

18. (D) South Central Railway (SCR)
The railway network in Rajasthan is managed under three main zones: North Western Railway, West Central Railway, and Northern Railway. The South Central Railway zone operates predominantly in peninsular southern states and maintains no administrative or operational jurisdiction over any railway lines, divisions, or operational routes within the geographic boundary of Rajasthan state.

19. (A) Bikaner
Project Chetak was established by the Border Roads Organisation in 1962 to construct, upgrade, and maintain strategic border roads along India's western frontier. Headquartered at Bikaner in Rajasthan, Project Chetak plays a

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(B) Minimal in heavy freight, as it focuses fundamentally on passenger transport
(C) It functions as the state nodal regulatory agency for managing all domestic air cargo operations
(D) It actively manages and executes the daily operations of all Inland Container Depots in Rajasthan

76. Consider the following statements about aviation infrastructure in Rajasthan:
I. Jaipur International Airport was the first airport in the state to receive international status.
II. Jodhpur Airport operates as a civil enclave within an Indian Air Force base.
III. Kishangarh Airport is a prominent greenfield airport in Rajasthan.
IV. Maharana Pratap Airport is located in the city of Kota.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?
(A) I and II only
(B) IV only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II, and IV only

77. Under the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) framework, the Jodhpur-Pali-Marwar region in Rajasthan is specifically being developed as a:
(A) Special Investment Region (SIR)
(B) Special Economic Zone (SEZ) for IT only
(C) Dedicated Agrimarket Zone
(D) Mega Coastal Economic Zone

78. To enhance women's safety in public transport, the 'Nirbhaya' buses introduced by RSRTC are mandatorily equipped with:
(A) Bulletproof reinforced glass windows, armed private security guards, and metal detectors
(B) High-speed free Wi-Fi routers, facial recognition systems, and biometric entry gates
(C) Panic buttons, Vehicle Tracking Systems (VTS), and CCTV cameras
(D) Fully automated electronic ticketing machines, onboard air purifiers, and digital displays

79. Among the following district headquarters in Rajasthan, which city currently does NOT have a major railway junction or line passing through it?
(A) Churu
(B) Dausa
(C) Sikar
(D) Tonk

80. Consider the following statements regarding the Rajasthan State Road Development and Construction Corporation (RSRDC):
I. It was originally established in 1979 as the Rajasthan State Bridge and Construction Corporation (RSBCC).
II. It frequently executes road and bridge projects on a Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) basis.
III. It is responsible for the operational management of the Jaipur City Transport Services Limited (JCTSL).
Which of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?
(A) I only
(B) II only
(C) III only
(D) I and II only

81. The transition from legacy transport systems to modern railway infrastructure, specifically the broad gauge conversion in regions like Marwar and Mewar, has most significantly boosted which sub-sector in Rajasthan?
(A) Commercial deep-sea fishing and marine product exports
(B) Heritage rail tourism and circuit travel
(C) Rapid urban metro commuting and suburban transit networks
(D) Heavy inland waterways cargo transport and barge shipping

82. Upon full operationalization, the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway is projected to reduce the road travel time between Delhi and Mumbai to approximately:
(A) 6 hours
(B) 12 hours
(C) 18 hours
(D) 24 hours

83. Which of the following is the most appropriate description of the primary impact of improved road and rail infrastructure on Rajasthan's tourism industry?
(A) It improved access to remote heritage and wildlife sites, boosting tourist footfall
(B) It caused a severe decline in heritage hotel room revenues due to an increase in rapid single-day trips
(C) It effectively restricted foreign international

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66. Which flagship scheme of the Rajasthan Government provides financial rewards to individuals who act as 'Good Samaritans' by taking road accident victims to the hospital?
(A) State-sponsored Rajasthan Sadak Suraksha Abhiyan Yojana
(B) State-level Nirbhaya Safar Kalyan Yojana
(C) Rajasthan Mukhyamantri Vahan Suraksha Protsahan Yojana
(D) Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Jeevan Raksha Yojana

67. The task of providing comprehensive rural road connectivity in western Rajasthan is severely challenged by which distinct socio-geographical feature?
(A) Dispersed and highly scattered settlement patterns known as 'Dhanis'
(B) Dense tropical rainforests and protected wildlife sanctuary regions
(C) High incidence of severe seismic activity and earthquake fault lines
(D) Deep perennial river valleys and steep mountainous terrain corridors

68. Select the correct sequence of the following operational Jaipur Metro Phase-1A stations, ordered geographically from West to East:
(A) Mansarovar, Vivek Vihar, Ram Nagar, Chandpole
(B) Chandpole, Ram Nagar, Vivek Vihar, Mansarovar
(C) Mansarovar, Ram Nagar, Vivek Vihar, Chandpole
(D) Chandpole, Vivek Vihar, Ram Nagar, Mansarovar

69. Terminal 2 of the Jaipur International Airport is currently utilized for handling:
(A) Both domestic and international passenger flights
(B) Exclusively scheduled domestic commercial passenger flights
(C) Exclusively international cross-border passenger flights
(D) Only non-commercial VIP movements and military air force aircraft

70. The Multi-Modal Logistics Park planned near Kishangarh primarily aims to integrate which two modes of transport to optimize freight movement?
(A) Air and Water
(B) Rail and Air
(C) Road and Water
(D) Road and Rail

71. Which Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been instrumental in dramatically improving the road connectivity of unconnected villages in Rajasthan over the last two decades?
(A) PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan
(B) PM Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)
(C) Bharatmala Pariyojana Infrastructure Scheme
(D) Sagarmala Project Port Connectivity Scheme

72. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R).
Assertion (A): The development of transport infrastructure in southern Rajasthan relies heavily on bridge construction and hill-cutting.
Reason (R): Southern Rajasthan is characterized by the rugged topography of the Aravalli ranges and numerous seasonal river valleys.
In the context of the above statements, which one of the following is correct?
(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) (A) is true but (R) is false
(D) (A) is false but (R) is true

73. Which of the following modes of transport has a negligible or non-existent presence in the commercial freight network of Rajasthan?
(A) Railway Transport
(B) Road Transport
(C) Air Cargo
(D) Inland Waterways

74. Following extensive unigauge policies by the Indian Railways, what is the most prevalent track gauge operating in Rajasthan today?
(A) Broad Gauge
(B) Meter Gauge
(C) Narrow Gauge
(D) Standard Gauge

75. While the logistics sector in Rajasthan is booming, what is the primary operational role of the RSRTC within this sector?
(A) It owns and runs exclusive double-stack container freight trains across industrial corridors

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ANSWERS

1. (B) NH 15
Under the legacy national highway numbering system in India, National Highway 15 was the longest highway passing through Rajasthan. Traversing the western border districts including Sri Ganganagar, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, and Barmer, it covered a length of over eight hundred kilometers within the state, serving as a vital strategic and commercial transport route.

2. (D) Rajsamand
Rajsamand district boasts the highest road density in the state of Rajasthan, measuring road length relative to geographical area. Factors such as intensive marble mining, industrial development, favorable hilly terrain connectivity, and well-integrated local road infrastructure contribute significantly to its dense transport network, surpassing larger districts in terms of road kilometer per unit area coverage across Rajasthan.

3. (A) Jaisalmer
Jaisalmer district possesses the lowest road density in Rajasthan primarily due to its vast expanse of arid desert land and sparse population distribution. The presence of shifting sand dunes, extreme climatic conditions, and large uninhabited tracts in the Thar region make road construction and regular maintenance logistically difficult and cost-intensive compared to other state districts.

4. (A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
Maharana Pratap Airport serves the city of Udaipur located at Dabok. Nal Airport is situated in Bikaner, operating primarily as an air force station with civil enclave facilities. Uttarlai Airport is an air force base located in Barmer district. Kishangarh Airport, operational near Ajmer, caters to the central region and local marble trade hub.

5. (A) 1994
In 1994, Rajasthan became the pioneer state in India to announce a dedicated State Road Policy. This framework aimed to improve private sector participation in road construction through private funding models, enhance road connectivity across rural and urban sectors, and establish sustainable financing mechanisms for expanding and upgrading the state road network systematically.

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6. (D) Rajasthan State Bridge and Construction Corporation
The Rajasthan State Road Development and Construction Corporation was originally set up in 1979 under the name Rajasthan State Bridge and Construction Corporation Limited. It was later renamed to reflect its broadened mandate, which includes executing state road infrastructure, highways, bridges, toll roads, and institutional buildings through various public-private development frameworks.

7. (B) Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS)
The Road Infrastructure Development Company of Rajasthan was established as a pioneer joint venture project between the Government of Rajasthan and Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited. Formed to implement the Mega Highways Project, it focuses on upgrading state highways to multi-lane commercial corridors using private sector finance, operational tolling, and sustainable maintenance models.

8. (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
Road transport is the dominant mode for moving passengers and cargo in Rajasthan because the state possesses no landlocked navigable inland waterways. Furthermore, the expansive Thar desert and hilly Aravalli topography limit uniform railway network expansion. Consequently, well-connected motor roadways carry the bulk of internal trade and public travel, validating the functional relationship between terrain constraints and road dependency.

9. (C) 2002
The North Western Railway zone was officially carved out and came into operational existence on October 1, 2002, with its headquarters established in Jaipur. It was formed by reorganizing divisions from the Northern and Western Railway zones, managing crucial

falls outside the geographical route of this dedicated heavy freight railway corridor.

30. (C) 39%
Rajasthan hosts approximately 39 percent of the total length of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor, amounting to nearly 565 kilometers. Passing through major industrial hubs, this segment provides efficient, high-speed rail cargo movement connecting industrial clusters in Rajasthan with major maritime ports on the western coast of India very effectively.

31. (D) Japan
The Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor is developed as a major infrastructure partnership between the Government of India and the Government of Japan. Technical expertise and financial cooperation from Japan, through organizations like JICA, facilitate high-speed freight logistics, industrial smart cities, integrated manufacturing zones, and strategic investment nodes across several Indian states, including Rajasthan.

32. (A) 1, 3, 4, 2
The chronological timeline of these transport events begins with the launch of the luxury Palace on Wheels train in 1982. The North Western Railway headquarters in Jaipur became operational in October 2002. Jaipur Airport achieved international status in December 2005, and Phase-1A of the Jaipur Metro was commercially inaugurated in June 2015.

33. (B) Consolidation of existing rural road networks linking them to rural agricultural markets
Under Phase III of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, the strategic focus shifted toward consolidating and upgrading existing rural road networks. Rather than creating new unpaved tracks, the phase prioritizes strengthening feeder routes that link rural habitations to Gramin Agricultural Markets, higher secondary educational institutions, and healthcare centers across rural Rajasthan.

34. (D) Agra Fort to Bandikui
Railway operations in Rajasthan officially began on April 20, 1874, when the first passenger train operated between Agra Fort in Uttar Pradesh and Bandikui in the present-day Dausa district of Rajasthan. Constructed under the Rajputana State Railway, this historical meter-gauge line marked the inception of rail transportation across the region.

35. (A) Banswara
The Delhi-Mumbai Expressway enters eastern Rajasthan in Alwar district and passes southwards through Dausa, Sawai Madhopur, Bundi, and Kota. Banswara, situated in the far southernmost tribal region of Rajasthan, lies completely off the alignment of this greenfield expressway, which exits the state through Kota district towards neighboring Madhya Pradesh state.

36. (B) III only
The Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation was formed in 1964 under statutory acts and operates headquarters in Jaipur, managing extensive inter-state passenger travel. However, it does not grant a 100 percent fare concession to all women on ordinary buses; concessions offered vary by targeted categories and government policy announcements rather than blanket full fare waivers.

37. (A) Bikaner
RAJSICO operates functional dry ports and Inland Container Depots across major industrial export hubs in Rajasthan, including Jaipur, Jodhpur, Bhilwara, and Bhiwadi. Bikaner currently does not feature among the operational Inland Container Depot sites managed directly by RAJSICO, where export container clearance, customs documentation, and logistics warehousing operations are regularly executed.

38. (D) Border and coastal road connectivity, along with economic corridors
The Bharatmala Pariyojana is a flagship national highway development program aimed at improving road transport infrastructure. In Rajasthan, its primary focus centers on constructing border roads along the international border with Pakistan, establishing economic corridors, developing inter-corridor connectivity routes, and building bypass roads to facilitate rapid commercial freight travel across strategic zones.

39. (B) Barmer
Barmer district possesses the highest total length of roads among all districts in Rajasthan. Owing to its vast geographic area, strategic international border location requiring extensive defense

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vital operational role in strengthening military mobility, defense logistics, and civilian road infrastructure across desert border areas in Rajasthan and Gujarat.

20. (A) 1, 2, 3, 4
Arranging these major railway junctions from North to South geographically across Rajasthan yields Sri Ganganagar at the northernmost border, followed by Bikaner in the northern desert belt, Jodhpur in the central-western region, and Udaipur situated in southern Rajasthan. This progression precisely reflects their physical latitudinal positions across the geographical layout of the state.

21. (A) Rural/Village Roads
In terms of road classification in Rajasthan, rural roads account for the highest proportion of the total route length. Driven by rural development initiatives, PMGSY implementations, and local connectivity schemes, village roads far surpass national highways, state highways, and major district roads combined in overall linear length across the state's vast territory.

22. (B) 2005
Jaipur Airport at Sanganer was granted official international airport status in December 2005. This upgrade allowed the facility to host direct international flights, upgrade terminal facilities, expand runway capacity for wide-body aircraft, and boost global tourist arrivals directly into Rajasthan, establishing it as the primary aviation gateway for the state.

23. (B) To provide free bus travel for two family members for the immersion of ashes in Haridwar
The Moksha Kalash Scheme, administered by the Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation, provides free express bus travel for up to two family members of a deceased person to travel to Haridwar for the ritual immersion of ashes. Launched as a welfare measure, it simplifies travel logistics and financial burdens during bereavement.

24. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
Under the old numbering framework, NH 8 traversed Delhi to Mumbai through Jaipur and Udaipur. NH 15 ran along western border regions connecting Pathankot to Samakhiali. NH 11 ran from Agra to Bikaner via Jaipur, while NH 12 connected Jaipur to Jabalpur through Kota, forming principal highway backbones across Rajasthan.

25. (B) Standard Gauge (1435 mm)
The Jaipur Metro rail network runs on a Standard Gauge system with a track width of 1435 mm. Standard gauge is globally adopted for modern urban rapid transit systems as it accommodates sharper curves, enables faster procurement of rolling stock, and supports advanced train control technology suitable for dense urban corridors.

26. (A) Banswara
Banswara district in southern tribal Rajasthan historically lacked operational railway line connectivity, remaining isolated from the national rail network. To rectify this regional disparity, railway infrastructure projects and line survey proposals have been sanctioned to connect Banswara with neighboring junctions like Dungarpur and Ratlam, boosting economic growth in the tribal belt.

27. (C) 6,000 km
The total operational railway route length in the state of Rajasthan stands at approximately 6,000 kilometers. Managed primarily under the North Western Railway zone along with West Central and Northern Railway divisions, this extensive network links major industrial hubs, agricultural zones, heritage tourism sites, and strategic international border regions effectively.

28. (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
Maintaining rural and border roads in western Rajasthan demands high recurring expenditure because of severe desert environmental factors. Frequent windstorms cause shifting sand dunes to accumulate on tarred surfaces, obstructing traffic and degrading road layers, which necessitates constant mechanical clearance and frequent resurfacing to maintain operational connectivity across the Thar desert region.

29. (A) Bikaner
The Western Dedicated Freight Corridor passes through eastern and central districts of Rajasthan, including Sikar, Jaipur, Ajmer, Alwar, and Pali, along its alignment connecting Dadri in Uttar Pradesh to JNPT in Mumbai. Bikaner, located far in northwestern Rajasthan,

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tourists to visiting the Golden Triangle circuit exclusively
(D) It forced the permanent operational closure of regional domestic airports due to superior rail alternatives

84. The core responsibility for the acquisition of land and the construction of National Highways passing through Rajasthan lies primarily with which agency?
(A) Public Works Department (PWD), Rajasthan
(B) Rajasthan State Road Development Corporation (RSRDC)
(C) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)
(D) Border Roads Organisation (BRO)

85. To bridge the gap in rural transport where RSRTC buses do not operate efficiently, the state government proposed which scheme to encourage private operators to run buses on rural routes?
(A) Rajasthan Rural Transport Corridors Scheme
(B) Comprehensive Mukhyamantri Gramin Bus Sewa Kalyan Yojana
(C) State Mukhyamantri Gramin Vahan Parivahan Yojana
(D) PM E-Bus Sewa Urban Public Transport Scheme

86. Passengers travelling by air to the historic city of Udaipur would arrive at which of the following airports?
(A) Sanganer International Airport, Jaipur
(B) Nal Civil Enclave Airport, Bikaner
(C) Uttarlai Military and Civil Airbase, Barmer
(D) Maharana Pratap Airport, Dabok

87. When analyzing the comparative transport network lengths in Rajasthan, which of the following statements is factual?
(A) The length of National Highways is greater than the length of State Highways.
(B) The length of State Highways is greater than the length of National Highways.
(C) The length of the railway network is greater than the total length of State Highways.
(D) The length of Urban Roads exceeds the length of Rural Roads.

88. To facilitate the transport of petroleum products and equipment for the upcoming Barmer Refinery, new railway connectivity is being developed linking which specific location?
(A) Munabao
(B) Samdari
(C) Pachpadra
(D) Gadra Road

89. India's first double-stack container train, which passes through Rajasthan optimizing freight load, was flagged off between which two stations?
(A) Jaipur and Kandla
(B) Ajmer and JNPT
(C) Jodhpur and Ahmedabad
(D) Rewari and Palanpur

90. The logistics and freight corridors developing in Rajasthan (like WDFC) are primarily expected to handle high volumes of which types of commodities produced in the state?
(A) Cement, building stones, minerals, and containerized manufactured goods
(B) Fresh marine fish, coastal aquaculture products, and deep-sea frozen seafood
(C) Softwood timber, commercial forestry products, and bamboo pulp raw materials
(D) High-altitude cold-climate agricultural products like organic apples and saffron

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transport networks, and expanding energy and petroleum sector infrastructure, Barmer has accumulated the maximum cumulative linear length of public highways and rural roads statewide.

40. (B) II only
Phase 1 of the Jaipur Metro was funded with soft loan assistance from the Asian Development Bank and operates on standard gauge track. However, it is not built completely underground; Phase 1A from Mansarovar to Chandpole is predominantly elevated, whereas only Phase 1B from Chandpole to Badi Chaupar runs through underground tunnels.

41. (D) Dholpur
Dholpur district records the lowest total length of roads in Rajasthan, reflecting its small geographical footprint. Positioned in the easternmost corner of the state, its limited total land area inherently constrains the total cumulative length of highways, district roads, and village pathways constructed within its administrative boundaries compared to larger districts.

42. (A) Multi-modal connectivity and integrated planning of logistics infrastructure
The PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan implemented in Rajasthan seeks to transform infrastructure development through integrated multi-modal connectivity. By breaking departmental silos, it synchronizes spatial planning across railways, roadways, industrial nodes, and air cargo facilities, ensuring seamless freight transit, lower logistics overheads, and efficient execution of state infrastructure projects.

43. (B) Bharatpur
Bharatpur is historically famous in Rajasthan for hosting the major manufacturing unit of Central India Machinery Manufacturing Company (CIMMCO), which specializes in producing heavy railway wagons, freight stock, and industrial steel fabrications. The establishment of this industrial wagon manufacturing facility marked a significant early contribution to Indian Railways' freight infrastructure.

44. (A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
An Inland Container Depot operates as a dry port for customs-cleared maritime cargo. Ro-Ro services involve trains carrying loaded trucks directly to destinations to save fuel and time. Build-Operate-Transfer represents a public-private partnership framework for executing public infrastructure, while FASTag utilizes RFID technology for electronic toll collection across national and state highways.

45. (A) Unconnected road patches between a village and the nearby main road or market
In the context of rural road transport planning in Rajasthan, 'missing link' denotes unpaved or incomplete road stretches connecting an isolated village or hamlet to an existing paved main road, highway, or agricultural market hub. Priority is given to constructing missing links under rural schemes to complete continuous regional road networks.

46. (C) Transport and Road Safety Department
To give explicit administrative emphasis to reducing road fatalities and enforcing transit regulations, the Government of Rajasthan officially renamed the Transport Department to the Transport and Road Safety Department. This structural change underscores an active policy shift toward comprehensive traffic safety management, driver training programs, and road safety infrastructure enforcement statewide.

47. (D) Bikaner-Suratgarh
Under the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor project in Rajasthan, specific prioritized investment regions and industrial nodes were designated, such as Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana, Jodhpur-Pali-Marwar, and Ajmer-Kishangarh. Bikaner-Suratgarh in northwestern Rajasthan falls completely outside the delineated project influence zone and is not designated as an investment node under the grand DMIC industrial development framework.

48. (C) (A) is true but (R) is false
The Western Dedicated Freight Corridor significantly accelerates industrial growth in Rajasthan by providing rapid, heavy-haul freight transportation to maritime ports. However, rail freight does not eliminate the need for road transport; rather, road transport remains essential for last-mile delivery, local logistics feeder services, and passenger movement across districts throughout the state.

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49. (B) Upgrade selected state highways to two-lane or four-lane standards
The Rajasthan State Highway Development Project, supported by international funding agencies like the World Bank and Asian Development Bank, aims to modernize state transport arteries. Its fundamental goal is upgrading crucial single-lane state highways and major district roads into engineered two-lane or four-lane standards with improved safety, pavement quality, and long-term maintenance protocols.

50. (C) It is roughly half of the national average.
The road density in Rajasthan is significantly lower than the national average of India, standing at roughly half of the national benchmark. This low figure is primarily driven by the state's vast geographical footprint, which accounts for over ten percent of India's total land area, coupled with large uninhabited desert expanses in Thar.

51. (A) Deccan Odyssey
The Deccan Odyssey is a premier luxury tourist train operated primarily by Maharashtra Tourism along routes across Maharashtra, Goa, and western India. Unlike the Palace on Wheels, Royal Rajasthan on Wheels, and Maharajahs' Express, the standard operational itineraries of the Deccan Odyssey do not center on touring the tourist circuits of Rajasthan.

52. (A) 1, 2, 3, 4
As the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway traverses through eastern Rajasthan from North to South, it enters first through Alwar district near the Haryana border, continues southward into Dausa district, proceeds further through Sawai Madhopur district near Ranthambore, and finally traverses Kota district before successfully crossing the state border into neighboring Madhya Pradesh.

53. (A) Faster movement of containerized goods to western seaports like Kandla and JNPT
The primary operational benefit of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor for landlocked Rajasthan is enabling high-speed, heavy-haul cargo movement. By running double-stack container trains without passenger train interference, regional industrial units in cement, textiles, minerals, and manufacturing achieve significantly reduced transit times and lower freight costs to western seaports like Mundra, Kandla, and JNPT.

54. (D) Ajmer to Delhi Cantt
The inaugural Vande Bharat Express service in Rajasthan was flagged off on April 12, 2023, connecting Ajmer Junction to Delhi Cantt via Jaipur, Alwar, and Gurgaon. Modified with high-rise overhead electric equipment to accommodate high-clearance routes, this high-speed train significantly reduced travel duration between central Rajasthan and the national capital.

55. (B) Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota
Under the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME-II) scheme aimed at decarbonizing urban public transport, electric bus fleets were deployed in major urban centers of Rajasthan, specifically Jaipur, Jodhpur, and Kota. These zero-emission buses operate on intra-city transit routes, reducing urban vehicular pollution and modernizing municipal public transportation systems.

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56. (A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
North Western Railway is headquartered in Jaipur and manages the majority of rail networks in Rajasthan. West Central Railway is headquartered at Jabalpur, overseeing the Kota division. North Central Railway operates out of Prayagraj, governing eastern boundary tracks, while Northern Railway is headquartered in New Delhi, holding jurisdiction over northwestern sections.

57. (D) Automated fitness testing of commercial vehicles to ensure roadworthiness
Automated Testing Stations are established in Rajasthan to automate mechanical fitness testing of commercial vehicles, including heavy trucks, buses, and public transport operators. By replacing manual inspection with computerized diagnostic systems, these stations ensure objective evaluation of vehicle roadworthiness, lower human bias, reduce emissions, and enhance overall road safety across the state.

58. (A) Nal Airport
Nal Airport, situated near Bikaner, is a dual-use aviation installation functioning as an Indian Air Force airbase while maintaining a civil enclave for commercial passenger flights. Notably, it contains one of India's highly strategic underground airbase facilities, designed

with reinforced subterranean structures capable of protecting military fighter aircraft during combat conditions.

59. (B) Indian Air Force (IAF)
Civil enclaves operating within military defense airfields in Rajasthan, such as Jodhpur Airport, rely on the Indian Air Force for managing Air Traffic Control tower operations and primary runway logistics. While civilian agencies manage terminal buildings, actual flight approach, departure sequencing, and runway clearances fall under defense air traffic control protocols.

60. (A) I, II, and III only
The Palace on Wheels luxury tourist train was launched in 1982 through collaboration between Indian Railways and RTDC, transitioning from meter gauge to broad gauge in the 1990s. However, it does not operate year-round; operations are suspended during the hot summer and monsoon months between April and August for annual maintenance.

61. (A) Khokhrapar
The Thar Express was an international passenger rail service that re-established cross-border rail links between India and Pakistan in 2006. Operating across the Thar desert, the train connected the Indian border station at Munabao in Rajasthan's Barmer district to the Pakistani border station at Khokhrapar in Sindh province, enabling cross-border travel.

62. (B) 2019
Operations of the Thar Express international rail link between Munabao and Khokhrapar were indefinitely suspended in August 2019. The operational suspension occurred amidst rising geopolitical tensions and diplomatic realignments following constitutional changes regarding Jammu and Kashmir, effectively bringing long-standing cross-border passenger train services operating through western Rajasthan to a halt.

63. (D) Upgrading state highways and major district roads
Financial allocations received by Rajasthan from the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund are primarily channeled into upgrading state highways, widening major district roads, and constructing bypasses or bridges. The statutory fund, backed by fuel cesses, provides crucial non-lapsable financial resources to strengthen non-national highway road infrastructure across urban and rural sectors statewide.

64. (B) II and III only
The Border Roads Organisation operates under the administrative control of the Ministry of Defence, not the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. Through Project Chetak, the organisation constructs and maintains strategic border highways in Rajasthan, facilitating military logistics while simultaneously opening vital transport connectivity for rural desert populations across western border districts.

65. (B) Rajasthan is landlocked, and dry ports speed up customs clearance for sea cargo
Because Rajasthan is a completely landlocked state lacking direct coastline access, Inland Container Depots function as dry ports to streamline international trade. Exporters can complete customs clearance, containerization, cargo inspection, and bonded warehousing locally within Rajasthan before shipping goods via rail or road corridors directly to maritime seaports on the western coast.

66. (D) Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Jeevan Raksha Yojana
Under the Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Jeevan Raksha Yojana, the Rajasthan government offers cash rewards and appreciation certificates to individuals who transport road accident victims to nearby hospitals during the critical golden hour. The scheme aims to motivate public participation as Good Samaritans, reducing road traffic fatalities through prompt emergency medical intervention.

67. (A) Dispersed and highly scattered settlement patterns known as 'Dhanis'
Constructing comprehensive rural road networks across western Rajasthan is logistically challenging due to the prevalence of Dhanis, which are small, highly dispersed hamlets scattered across vast desert expanses. Laying paved roads to connect every individual, sparsely populated settlement significantly increases per-capita road construction costs and long-term linear maintenance requirements statewide.

68. (A) Mansarovar, Vivek Vihar, Ram Nagar, Chandpole
Traveling from West to East along the Phase-1A line of the Jaipur Metro, the geographical

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route length of National Highways within the state. State highways form an extensive intra-state arterial framework, connecting district headquarters, industrial areas, and key economic centers across all administrative regions.

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88. (C) Pachpadra
To support the transport and logistical requirements of the HRRL petroleum refinery complex being constructed in Barmer district, dedicated new rail line connectivity is being laid linking Pachpadra to the main rail network. This railway link ensures efficient movement of petroleum products, heavy equipment, and industrial raw materials to and from Pachpadra.

89. (D) Rewari and Palanpur
India's first commercial double-stack container train operationalized under electric traction was flagged off on the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor stretch between Rewari in Haryana and Palanpur in Gujarat, passing directly through Rajasthan. This milestone permitted double-stack container hauling on electrified tracks, vastly increasing freight load capacity across the regional transport network.

90. (A) Cement, building stones, minerals, and containerized manufactured goods
The expanding freight and logistics corridors in Rajasthan are engineered to handle high volumes of bulk mineral and industrial commodities produced state-wide. Primary goods include cement, dimensional building stones like marble, granite, and sandstone, rock phosphate, chemical fertilizers, crude petroleum, and containerized manufactured outputs destined for domestic markets and maritime export ports.

78. (C) Panic buttons, Vehicle Tracking Systems (VTS), and CCTV cameras
To enhance passenger safety and security for women, RSRTC introduced specialized 'Nirbhaya' buses equipped with mandatory safety features. These include emergency panic buttons linked directly to central control rooms, GPS-enabled Vehicle Tracking Systems for real-time location monitoring, and CCTV surveillance cameras, enabling rapid emergency responses across statewide buses.

79. (D) Tonk
Tonk is a district headquarters in Rajasthan that has historically lacked direct railway line connectivity passing through the main urban city. While Churu, Dausa, and Sikar are well-connected junctions on active broad-gauge railway lines, Tonk has relied exclusively on road transport, with direct rail connections currently under planning and development.

80. (C) III only
Statement III is incorrect because RSRDC is not responsible for managing Jaipur City Transport Services Limited; JCTSL is an independent municipal Special Purpose Vehicle managed under local urban authorities. RSRDC was founded in 1979 as RSBCC and regularly executes highway projects and bridges across Rajasthan using Build-Operate-Transfer public-private partnership models.

81. (B) Heritage rail tourism and circuit travel
The systematic gauge conversion of rail tracks from meter gauge to broad gauge in the historical Marwar and Mewar regions significantly boosted heritage tourism and luxury circuit travel. Seamless broad gauge connections eliminated train changes at transfer junctions, facilitating comfortable, uninterrupted travel for luxury trains and tourists visiting major heritage destinations across Rajasthan.

82. (B) 12 hours
Upon full operationalization, the greenfield Delhi-Mumbai Expressway is designed to reduce the highway travel time between Delhi and Mumbai from nearly 24 hours to approximately 12 hours. The access-controlled, eight-lane corridor features high design speeds, bypassing congested urban stretches to enable faster, safer freight transit and vehicular travel across Rajasthan.

83. (A) It improved access to remote heritage and wildlife sites, boosting tourist footfall
Modernizing road and rail infrastructure in Rajasthan has significantly enhanced tourist access to remote heritage fortresses, cultural monuments, and wildlife sanctuaries such as Ranthambore and Sariska. Improved travel connectivity reduces overall transit friction, encourages multi-destination circuit travel, and drives substantial growth in domestic and international tourist footfall across all major state destinations.

84. (C) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)
The National Highways Authority of India, operating under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, holds primary statutory responsibility for land acquisition, funding, planning, construction, and operational maintenance of National Highways traversing Rajasthan. It manages major expressways and national road corridors to maintain standardized freight and passenger transit networks nationwide.

85. (A) Rajasthan Rural Transport Corridors Scheme
To address critical transport gaps in remote rural areas where state transport corporation buses do not operate viably, the government introduced the Rajasthan Rural Transport Corridors Scheme. This initiative incentivizes private bus operators to run scheduled passenger services along designated rural routes, significantly improving last-mile accessibility and mobility for rural villagers.

86. (D) Maharana Pratap Airport, Dabok
Maharana Pratap Airport, located at Dabok approximately 22 kilometers from Udaipur city, serves as the commercial air transport gateway for the historic region of Mewar. The airport hosts regular domestic commercial flights connecting Udaipur to major national metropolises, catering extensively to domestic and international tourists visiting the historic city of lakes.

87. (B) The length of State Highways is greater than the length of National Highways.
In the hierarchy of transport infrastructure lengths in Rajasthan, the total route length of State Highways is greater than the total

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sequence of stations begins at the southwestern terminal of Mansarovar. The train proceeds through Vivek Vihar, passes intermediate stations like Ram Nagar, and terminates at Chandpole on the western edge of the old walled city.

69. (A) Both domestic and international passenger flights
Terminal 2 at Jaipur International Airport serves as the integrated passenger terminal, handling both domestic and international flight operations. Modernized to manage increasing air traffic and passenger footfall, it houses integrated immigration counters, customs facilities, security checkpoints, and passenger lounges catering to domestic air routes as well as global international destinations.

70. (D) Road and Rail
The Multi-Modal Logistics Park planned near Kishangarh is designed to seamlessly integrate road and rail transport networks. Positioned strategically near dedicated freight corridors and national highways, this hub facilitates container transshipment between heavy freight railway wagons and road cargo trucks, optimizing supply chain management for the marble, textile, and manufacturing industries.

71. (B) PM Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)
The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is the flagship Centrally Sponsored Scheme responsible for drastically upgrading rural connectivity across Rajasthan. By constructing all-weather paved roads connecting isolated rural habitations to main road networks, PMGSY has expanded economic access, boosted rural trade, and improved rural healthcare and education access state-wide over two decades.

72. (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
Developing road and railway infrastructure in southern Rajasthan requires extensive hill-cutting, blasting, and high-cost bridge construction over seasonal river channels. This engineering complexity directly stems from the rugged physical geography of the region, dominated by the Aravalli mountain ranges and drainage basins of rivers like the Mahi, Som, and Jakham, validating the cause.

73. (D) Inland Waterways
Inland water transport is non-existent as a commercial freight transit mode in Rajasthan. Because the state is predominantly landlocked and characterized by arid desert conditions, low seasonal rainfall, and non-perennial rivers, Rajasthan lacks navigable river routes or deep inland canal infrastructure capable of carrying commercial cargo barges or passenger ships.

74. (A) Broad Gauge
Following Indian Railways' systematic 'Project Unigauge' initiative, virtually all commercial railway lines in Rajasthan have been converted to Broad Gauge (1676 mm). Broad gauge uniform tracks now dominate the state network, enabling seamless direct train connectivity across India, higher operational speeds, and eliminating bottlenecks associated with legacy meter gauge systems.

75. (B) Minimal in heavy freight, as it focuses fundamentally on passenger transport
The Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation functions primarily as a public passenger bus transport service operator. Its involvement in heavy industrial logistics and bulk freight movement is minimal, as industrial freight in Rajasthan is managed by private logistics fleets, container operators, and specialized rail freight agencies like CONCOR and Dedicated Freight Corridors.

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76. (B) IV only
Statement IV is incorrect because Maharana Pratap Airport is situated in Udaipur (specifically Dabok), not in Kota. Jaipur Airport was indeed the state's first international airport, Jodhpur Airport operates as a civil enclave under military controls, and Kishangarh Airport represents a major greenfield aviation facility built recently in central Rajasthan.

77. (A) Special Investment Region (SIR)
Under the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor framework, the Jodhpur-Pali-Marwar area is designated and planned as a flagship Special Investment Region. This region focuses on developing multi-sectoral industrial parks, textile processing hubs, modern urban infrastructure, and logistics nodes leveraging proximity to dedicated freight rail corridors passing through central-western Rajasthan state.

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